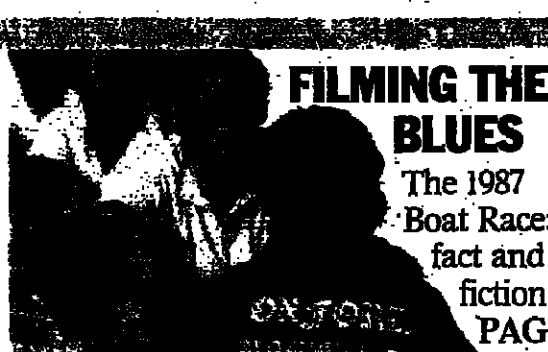
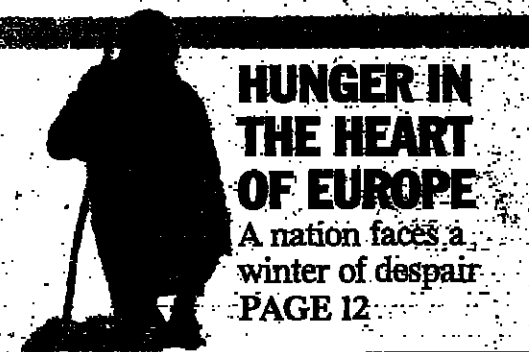




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TOKEN 14, PAGE 2



**FILMING THE BLUES**  
The 1987 Boat Race: fact and fiction  
PAGE 17



**HUNGER IN THE HEART OF EUROPE**  
A nation faces a winter of despair  
PAGE 12



**CD OFFER**  
TEN GREAT HITS FOR £1  
TOKEN 2, PAGE 45

Standards hearing opens before TV

## Minister puts blame on his inexperience

By Philip Webster and Andrew Pierce

DAVID WILLETT, the Paymaster General and a former government whip, last night blamed his inexperience for leading him into a position in which he had been accused of trying to smother an investigation into the Neil Hamilton cash-for-questions affair.

Denying that he had tried to influence the inquiry, he admitted that he had put an "artificial structure" on a conversation he had had with a senior Conservative committee chairman about the investigation.

In a tense appearance before a televised hearing of the Commons Standards and Privileges Committee Mr Willetts expressed regret if his own leaked account of a conversation with the chairman of the now-defunct Members' Interests Select Committee had "inadvertently led to any confusion or misconception as to what actually occurred".

The note of the conversation with Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith was written in his first full week of work as a whip. He told MPs: "It certainly would have been wrong to try to influence him and I did not seek to influence him or put pressure on."

He said that "because I mistakenly assumed that something more was required of me as a whip than simply recording what a colleague said" he had tried "to impose an artificial structure on the conversation" by setting out two possible courses of action Sir Geoffrey's committee might take: either setting the investigation aside because of



Willetts: regret if he had caused confusion

the *sub judice* rule or carrying it out as quickly as possible. However, the handwritten note by Mr Willetts of his conversation suggested that the "good Tory majority" could be exploited in a speedy inquiry.

The hearing had begun with two hours of questioning by MPs of Sir Geoffrey, in which he strenuously denied that he had bowed to improper pressure. He said that he had neither sought advice nor did I expect anyone to give me advice. And he even suggested that it was "quite probable" that when he had his conversation with Mr Willetts he might not have been aware that Mr Willetts had been appointed a whip.

But Sir Geoffrey said that if he had said anything significant he would have expected it to be reported to the whips' office. If he had wanted to report anything himself to the Chief Whip he would not have used a junior whip.

He said that it was not his

job to "rubbish" Mr Willetts's shorthand note. It was, however, inaccurate.

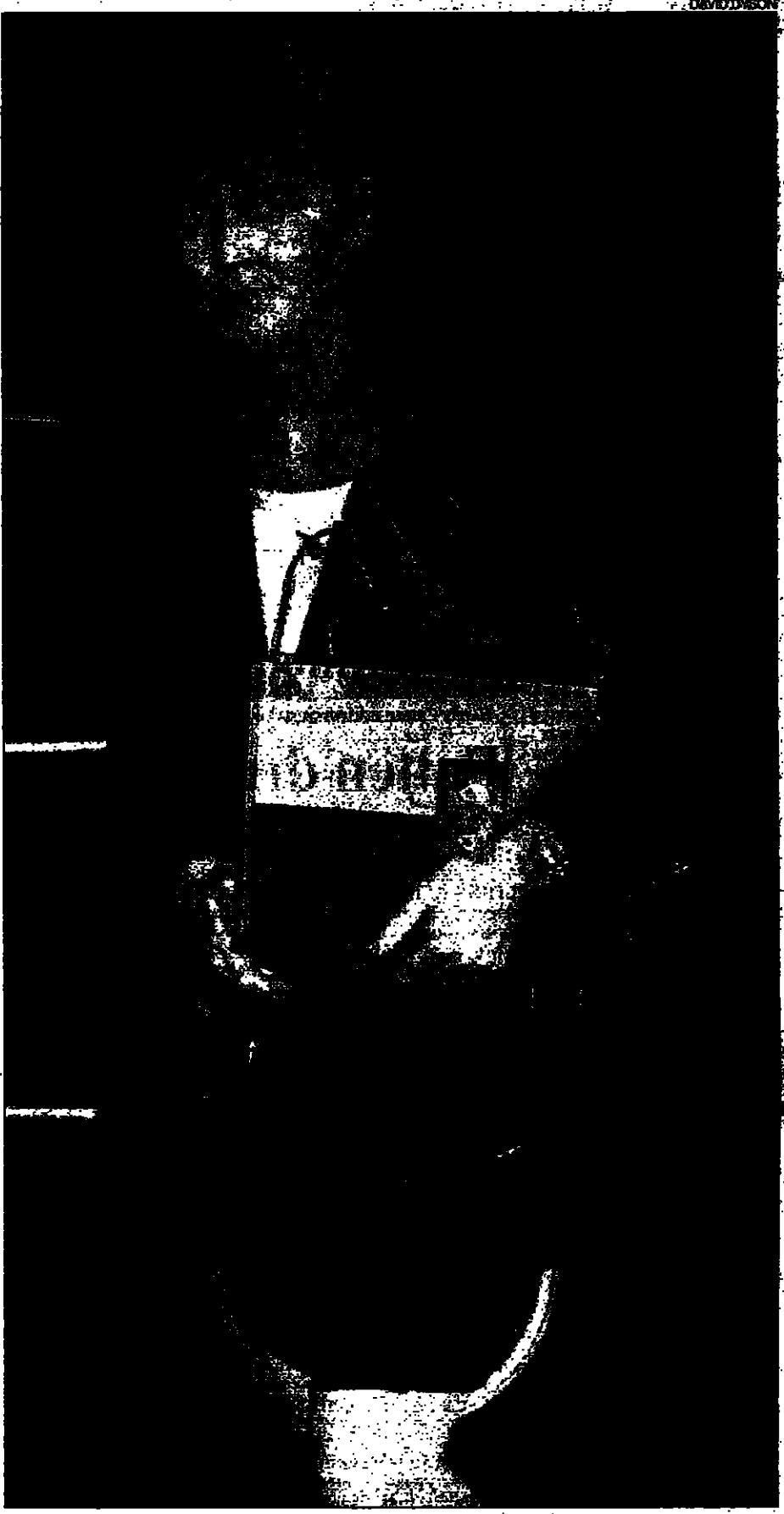
The Labour backbencher John Evans said any "fair-minded rational person" who read Mr Willetts's memorandum would conclude that Sir Geoffrey had sought advice from a "high level within the Government" on how his committee should handle the "potentially devastating" allegations. "Isn't it astonishing that Mr Willetts could have put such a reading onto the conversation that you had when you seemingly cannot recall how he could possibly arrive at that conclusion?"

Sir Geoffrey replied: "Yes, I think it is astonishing and I think you are quite right."

In a memorandum sent to the privileges committee Mr Willetts gave his version of the conversation he had with Sir Geoffrey. He said: "If my note conveyed an impression of a structured discussion, such an impression would be incorrect — it would not properly reflect the true nature of this brief, informal expression of then current concerns on Sir Geoffrey's part."

"However, because I assumed mistakenly that something more was required of me as a whip than simply recording what a colleague said, I sought in the latter part of my note to impose an artificial structure on the conversation by setting out two possible options or courses of action which I thought Sir Geoffrey's committee might take."

Parliament, page 10  
Leading article, page 19



The Duchess of York leaving Heathrow yesterday for Chicago

## Contrite Duchess wants to leave Britain for US

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE Duchess of York would move to the United States "like a shot" with her children, Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie, she has said in a television interview. She also admits considerable personal failings in her marriage to Prince Andrew and in her dealings with the Royal Family.

In an unusually candid interview on American television — to be broadcast in the United States tomorrow night — the Duchess says she has been "a headless chicken for ten years" and that she "hung my own self with my rope" during her marriage.

She not only blames herself but also criticises "the system, the firm, the grey men, the institution" of the Royal Family and court for her public downfall. She presents herself as a troubled, witless woman in search of "answers" and unable to control her extravagant and soul and pocket.

The interview with ABC's Diane Sawyer is the Duchess's first in-depth television discussion about the scandals that have befallen her since her 1986 wedding to the Queen's second son. Edited scripts were given out yesterday. They suggested that while the broadcast will evoke the Prince and Princess of Wales's controversial disclosures to the BBC, the Duchess's interview is longer on self-blame than those efforts,

and shorter on antipathy to her former spouse.

Her confirmation of rumours that she would like to live in America no doubt owes much to the steady criticism she has had at home. "Love it over there," she said of America. "If it comes to a point where it works out that I can be abroad with my children, then abroad with my children it will be."

Asked about her relationship with the Duke of York, the Duchess replied: "He's still there by my side; says a lot for him. But I'm there for him, too."

ABC said the Duchess, who has well-publicised financial difficulties, was not paid. The

interview was recorded on a single day recently at her house in Britain and has an informal air.

While discussing her financial problems, the Duchess confesses that she "just went mad, you know, spent too much."

Miss Sawyer focuses in the interview on rumours about a "suicide watch" said to have been mounted on the Duchess at a low point in her marital troubles. These were "not true at all," the Duchess says.

Asked about the "challenge" of joining the Royal Family, the Duchess replies: "I am sure [others] would have done a much better job because they would have had their wits about them."

Throughout her difficulties, the Duchess has been offered moral and sometimes material support by the Queen. She fears she had let the Queen down. "I think so, I feel so... I feel perhaps I let the family down. I'm sure I did."

She does not confirm stories that the crown offered to pay off her debt in exchange for custody of the Princesses, but claims that when those rumours were reported, Princess Beatrice asked: "Mummy, does that mean that you're going to get rid of us?"

To this she replied: "The end of the world's got to happen before I... anybody touches you... we're a team."



When I overspend, it tends to be my husband who cries out for help

Peter Riddell, page 10

### Drink diagnosis cost man a job

An executive, who says he drinks one or two glasses of wine a day, is suing a company doctor for reporting to a prospective employer that he had a drink problem. The job offer was withdrawn.

Medical Briefing, page 5

### Charity pulls out of Britain

The charity Save the Children is abandoning its direct work with young people in Britain because spending on the National Lottery has caused voluntary donations to fall.

Instead the charity will concentrate on its overseas work. Page 2

## Major threatens to use EU veto

By Jill Sherman and Philip Bassett

JOHN MAJOR issued his strongest warning last night that he would block future developments in Europe until other countries agree to his demands to exempt Britain from a 48-hour week.

The Prime Minister made clear in his speech at the Lord Mayor's Banquet that he was prepared to use his veto to scupper the inter-governmental conference on Europe, unless Britain gets its way.

Today the European Council of Justice is expected to reject Britain's legal challenge to the directive ordering a maximum 48-hour week. But Mr Major said that he would not allow Brussels to jeopardise economic success in Britain. He made clear that if today's judgment goes against Britain, he will seek changes to the Maastricht treaty to ensure that Britain is exempted from implementing the directive.

"There is no case for extra prescriptive legislation from Europe on matters that are now best resolved between employer and employee," he said. "That is why, if the court rules against us, we will require changes in European law to reinforce Britain's protection. Our partners know that we shall insist upon these changes before we can conclude any new agreements at the inter-governmental conference next year."

Downing Street officials made clear that Mr Major was still prepared to discuss "constructively" issues that other countries were pressing for, but he would not accept any changes unless he won his way on the 48-hour week.

The first test of the new blocking tactics will come at the Dublin summit next month when ministers will draw up the draft for Maastricht II. But treaty changes will not be concluded until the Amsterdam summit next June, after the last possible date for a general election.

Mr Major is expected to press his case at Dublin for a treaty change to ensure that the 48-hour week maximum and any future directives on working conditions are dealt with under social policy issues, from which Britain has an opt-out, rather than under health and safety provisions.

Earlier, Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission, signalled that European countries might offer a deal on the 48-hour directive if Britain agreed to important extensions of European powers. But, he told the CBI annual conference: "It is important to realise that it is not going to be easy to persuade the other 14 countries to amend the treaty. Unanimity would be needed."

Peter Riddell, page 10

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## Crumpled Heseltine is eclipsed by a returning star from the east

Like some multicoloured calvario of personal-ities from recent history, the CBI in Harrogate yesterday offered us Michael Heseltine, Leon Brittan, Chris Patten and Gordon Brown.

Mr Heseltine was first. Even his hair went flat. On the rostrum after breakfast, Heseltine and his keynote speech met as though for the first time. Introduced to his text, he was unimpressed. He became bored with it, confused by it, then seemed to fall out with it as one might with a

new acquaintance. But he stuck to it, stumbling irritably through to the end.

For a political sketch writer, a CBI gathering — almost entirely middle-aged, male and suited — is a culture shock. They sit in expressionless rows, these nabobs of industry. When they speak it is as though accustomed to command attention, not earn it. Their speeches, shrouded in cliché, never climax, rather they peter out.

In place of the modern, flag-bedecked party conference stage set, we were confronted by a severe rostrum above which two large video screens were enclosed in bare ash frames of repro-classical design, such as might frame a desk top portrait of a company chairman's daughter, or cat. It was within these frames that the careworn features of a giant Deputy Prime Minister appeared to businessmen. Any connection with the crumpled figure standing at the microphone seemed accidental.

The speech was empty, "benchmarking the world's

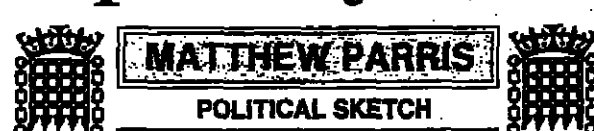
best" — a fine theme as few had any idea what it meant or any inclination to find out. Another recurring word was "staggering", as in "the effect has been staggering". Hezz looked more jittered than staggered. Unable to stagger himself, let alone us, he repeated the word at increased volume, tossing his head and

causing a tranche of his forehead to break away from the main body and slip over the right ear — but to no other effect.

"Change is never easy," he droned. "We must look forward to the 21st century." He must have written these lines himself, any speechwriter guilty of them would be sum-

marily sacked. What a contrast with Sir Leon Brittan and Christopher Patten. They looked so much more hale and cheery. Exiled (respectively) to Brussels and Hong Kong, these former Tory ministers have left serving Tory ministers to languish here like pictures of Dorian Gray in some damp attic, doing their ageing for them.

Commissioner Brittan offered a fluent and optimistic case for currency union, while Governor Patten showed a political class we had almost



forgetting. Elegant, funny and thoughtful, he produced an impassioned defence of free trade and a withering side-swipe at Sir James Goldsmith. He even got the CBI to laugh. Invited as warm up act for Gordon Brown, Patten proved to be the star of the day.

But Mr Brown was good. There was limited interest in the Shadow Chancellor's speech because — a queer but now common form of disrespect — the gist of it had been released to the press over the weekend; and it was a pity he

forgot. I shall always find Brown convincing now I have seen his mother. Photographs and interviews with her in last week's papers suggested such a nice, bright-eyed, honest sounding and spirited woman that, long after the question of her business experience is forgotten, one would take a lot of persuading that Mrs Brown could have a son who was not worthwhile.

## Clarke 'as keen as Germans' to keep tight fiscal control

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

KENNETH CLARKE proclaimed himself yesterday to be "as keen as the Germans" on enforcing tough fiscal discipline and ridiculed claims that Britain was about to yield sovereignty over its budgets to the European Union.

The Chancellor acknowledged, however, that Britain would be "pooling its sovereignty" with other EU states if it chose to enter the European Monetary Union. "The whole purpose of EMU envisages some pooling of sovereignty because monetary policy will come under the control of the European Central Bank," he said.

Mr Clarke, taking his usual positive approach to the future euro, was on the defensive over charges from Tory Eurosceptics that British support for a "stability pact" to ensure fiscal virtue among EMU members amounted to a further renunciation of national sovereignty to Brussels. Under the pact now emerging, states that borrow too heavily will face heavy near-automatic sanctions, extending to repeatable fines of 0.5 per cent of the state's gross domestic product.

Emphasising one of his standard themes, Mr Clarke said Britain, whether inside or outside EMU, backed the principle of the pact as a means of ensuring fiscal virtue and lower interest rates across Europe. Britain agreed with the principle behind the pact when it signed the Maastricht treaty, he noted.

Mr Clarke joined 12 other

finance ministers at a Brussels meeting yesterday in opposing German demands for a precise definition of conditions that would exempt an EMU state from fines. But he insisted: "I am as keen as the Germans to ensure that we do have a stability pact that works." That was vital to "ensure that you don't have interest rates driven up across the euro zone."

Jürgen Stark, the German junior Finance Minister, threatened to hold up agreement on the creation of a new European monetary system and other EMU-related measures if the EU failed to give ground on its demand for a tough stability pact. Germany wants states to be let off the hook only if they run into a sharp recession of at least a 2 per cent drop in GDP over a year. Mr Clarke said the Germans were making an unnecessary fuss over "a tiny



Clarke denied Britain would lose sovereignty

footnote point". EU leaders are due to reach final agreement in Dublin next month.

Mr Clarke dismissed suggestions that a scheme that would bind non-EMU states to report its budget plans to Brussels amounted to any transfer of sovereignty. Britain had been making such reports for the past few years, he noted. The proposed "reinforced convergence programme" merely made compulsory what Britain had been doing voluntarily. Any loss of sovereignty was "no more than the pooling of sovereignty in the Maastricht treaty," he said.

Monetary union did imply some transfer of sovereignty, he acknowledged, but not over budget-making. "The nation state remains completely in control of the level of taxation and public spending," he said. The pact would merely ensure that Governments did not overspend wildly, at a level far beyond policies followed by the Government. "The trigger is far above anything that I would view as desirable for the UK economy."

Ministers said they expect to overcome German objections with a definition of the "temporary and exceptional circumstances" that would win exemption from Maastricht fines. The formula would allow ministers to take political factors into account for states with economic downturns of under 3 per cent. Only The Netherlands yesterday supported Germany's hard line.



Chris Patten addressing the CBI conference yesterday

## Patten drops hints of European role

CHRIS PATTEN, the Governor of Hong Kong, told British business leaders yesterday that he could play a lively part in the debate over Europe after the colony is handed to China next summer (Arthur Leathley writes).

Addressing the CBI conference in Harrogate, the former Tory party chairman, a pro-European, said: "One day you may invite me back after my compulsory period of radio silence so I can join you in detonating a few helpful European explosions."

Mr Patten, widely expected to return to British or European politics after the handover, which follows the general election, laughed off speculation that he would still like to lead the party. "It is like asking: 'If your backhand were better and you got more first serves in, would you like to play at Wimbledon?'"

He dismissed suggestions that either Sir Nicholas Scott, in Kensington and Chelsea, or Michael Heseltine, MP for Henley, were keeping seats warm for him.

## Long shifts linked to health and happiness

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE who work 12-hour shifts tend to be healthier and happier than those who work eight-hour shifts, according to researchers.

The finding, on the eve of the European Court of Justice's decision on the Government's challenge to a Brussels directive imposing a maximum 48-hour working week, suggests that the sequence and timing of shiftwork are as important as the hours worked.

Professor Simon Folkard, director of the Medical Research Council's body rhythms and shiftwork centre at the University of Wales, who gave evidence to the court on behalf of the Commission, said there was little doubt that working hours and shift patterns damaged health and raised safety worries.

A comparison of two groups of chemical workers who operated a 12-hour and an eight-hour shift system found those on the shorter shifts suffered more heart disease, more disruption to social life, and shorter sleep between working days. The researchers say this was probably because those on the 12-hour shifts had shorter spans of successive workdays and longer spans of rest days. However, those on the eight-hour shift system were more alert when at work.

Anthony Fuller, chairman of London brewers Fuller's, told the CBI conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, that a minimum wage, which is being proposed by Labour, of £4 an hour could add ten pence to the price of a pint of beer or lead to job losses.

## Ministers fear revolt on gun compensation

Ministers last night tried to avert a Tory revolt in the Commons today over compensation for gun owners. Whips had been warned to expect a rebellion on a vote at the end of the second reading of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

The vote authorises compensation to the owners of the 160,000 guns which must be surrendered under proposals arising out of the Dunblane massacre. The 1992 Committee of backbench MPs has warned ministers of serious opposition unless the Government agrees to allow ammunition, accessories, and gun businesses to qualify for compensation. The committee is also demanding that the estimated compensation bill should be increased from £50 million to £500 million.

## 'Soviet-style' crime Bill

Lord Ackner, a former law lord, strongly criticised the Government for causing tensions with judges by failing to protect their independence. Delivering the John Stuart Mill Institute lecture in London, he said the Crime Bill, which contains the Home Secretary's toughest sentencing proposals, was on a par with the former Soviet Union telling judges what sentence to impose.

## Election neutrality plans

Plans to ensure the neutrality of civil servants in the run-up to the election include the withdrawal from the Government's daily presentation meeting and having the Cabinet committee minutes taken more often by political aides. In the Commons, Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister, rejected Labour accusations that he was subverting the impartiality of the Civil Service.

## Oxford seeks fresh field

Oxford University is to seek an alternative site for a £40 million business school. The university council agreed yesterday to call for a postal vote following last week's refusal by Congregation, the dons' parliament, to approve the University Club ground as a site. The ballot will be delayed until the New Year, to give time for other possibilities to be examined.

## Rethink on BSE study

Government scientists may have been wrong when they decided that cows infected with BSE can pass the disease to unborn calves. Dr Danny Matthews, a veterinary adviser at the Agriculture Ministry, said that the findings announced in August were open to other interpretations, which included the possibility of no maternal transmission at all.

## BBC licence campaign

The Government will be urged today to back calls by the BBC for an increase in the licence fee when the pressure group the Voice of the Listener and Viewer launches its Fair Fee For Broadcasting campaign in the Lords. The paper recommends that the fee should rise to safeguard the future of the BBC.

## Lawton cap for funeral

One of Tommy Lawton's England caps, sold to repay debts when he fell on hard times, will be returned for his funeral on Wednesday. After a national appeal on Radio 5 Live, a collector from Kent offered to lend the family a cap the centre forward won against Holland in the 1940s for the funeral at Bramcote Crematorium, Nottinghamshire.

## Major can never win on hours, Brussels says

FROM CHARLES BREMNER  
IN BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN officials are confident that Britain is picking a fight which it cannot win if it takes an all-out stand today against an unfavourable court verdict on working hours.

The European Court of Justice is expected to reject a challenge by the Government against the 1993 Working Time Directive, which sets a maximum 48-hour week and minimum rest periods and paid holidays throughout the EU. In increasingly

strident terms, John Major has promised to fight the directive at negotiations to revise the Maastricht treaty. The Government argues that the measure was wrongly enacted by majority vote as a health and safety measure, and breaches Britain's exemption from the Social Chapter.

Britain's fight is raising passions because the Continental social model is under heavy pressure from the global market and the imperative of meeting the austere budget conditions for Monetary Union. Privately, politicians and officials acknowledge

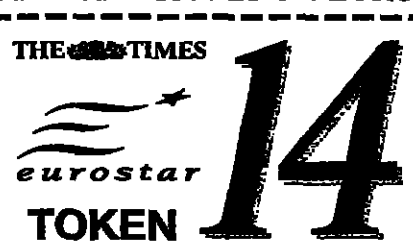
that Britain's drive to deregulate economic life has proved its worth, but there is a consensus that Mr Major is picking the wrong battlefield. For a start, Britain's conduct has been erratic. In negotiations that long predated the birth of the Social Chapter, it won exemptions from its partners on the understanding that it accepted the directive as inevitable. The view was reinforced when Britain abstained at the Council of Ministers rather than voting against the measure. Thanks to British negotiators, the directive was heavily

diluted. Anyone who wishes will be able to work for more than 48 hours per week. Big sections of the workforce are not covered, including transport staff and hospital doctors. Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, is to propose ending most of the exemptions if the court finds against Britain. The TUC backs his plans. The Government has hinted that it could revisit its tactics over the BSE beef ban and refuse to cooperate in discussing other EU reforms until given assurances over the directive. This could mean Brit-

ain isolating itself further from its EU partners at the summit in Dublin on December 13.

The EU timetable means that British cooperation is not essential until the final stages of the inter-governmental conference next spring. Other states could wait for a change of government after the April elections. Commission officials pointed out that the inter-governmental conference had no power to strike down existing treaties, unless a new treaty created the right and a further conference was launched.

FREE RETURN TICKET ON EUROSTAR



See page 49 for further details

## Falling donations force charity to stop British projects

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

SAVE the Children is abandoning direct work with young people in Britain because of a big drop in donations.

The charity will halt about 70 projects over the next two years. Its only role in Britain will be to research issues involving children and to advise other organisations.

Save the Children's voluntary do-

minations fell by almost a quarter from £41 million in 1994-95 to £32 million in 1995-96. Its total income, including grants, dropped from £92 million to £78 million. Last December, in response to "significant pressure" from the National Lottery and increased competition from other organisations, it announced a £9 million budget cut.

About half of the savings have been made in the £60 million overseas

programme. The British and overseas departments have been merged with the loss of about 500 jobs. About £1 million has already been shaved off the £14 million British and Europe budget, which represents 17 per cent of total spending, but there is still £1.5 million to be saved by April 1998.

All of the charity's fundraising is in Britain although the majority is spent abroad. A spokeswoman for the charity, which is headed by the

Princess Royal, said yesterday: "We are unusual because we work both at home and overseas, and have done for many years. We regard the two as equally important." The spokeswoman added that although the overseas budget looked large in comparison to Britain, it covered more than 50 countries.

Efforts are being made to find other organisations to take over the community projects. Another possi-

bility is that individual schemes may become registered charities in their own right.

Judy Lister, regional director, said: "With such a reduced base, we have had to look very carefully at how we can achieve maximum impact with such a small budget. We can no longer afford to be a service provider, but we are looking at ways of keeping those services going in another form."

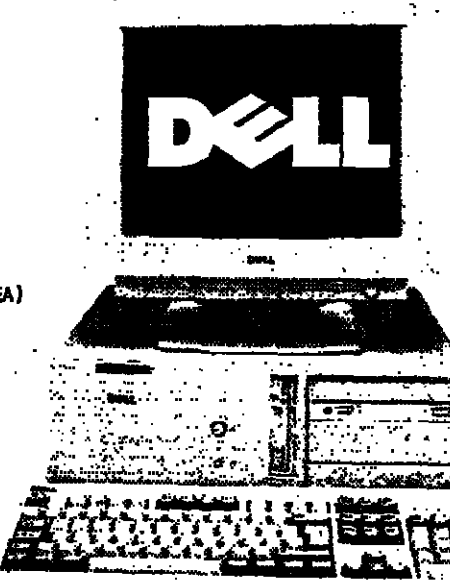
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Neighbour admits manslaughter of 18-year-old whose body was found outside airbase

## Student's woman friend 'killed her for sexual buzz'

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A YOUNG woman was stabbed to death in a country lane by a female friend who had a sexual interest in women, a court was told yesterday.

The body of Rachael Lean was found with her buttocks exposed in September, last year in undergrowth near her home at Buxton, Norfolk. Her killer, Maria Hnatuk, 29, was said to have had a particular interest in women's buttocks.

Hnatuk, whose family live in Bristol but who had been living next door to Miss Lean shortly before the killing, has admitted manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility, but denies murder. The prosecution refuses to accept her plea and maintains that she is guilty of murder.

Miss Lean lived with her father, Peter, an RAF technician, near RAF Coltishall and was a popular outgoing woman on the threshold of a university career. She met Hnatuk while training at the airbase gym, Norwich Crown Court was told.

On September 5 Miss Lean went to the gym before returning home, where she wrote a letter saying that she was going out to meet a friend. The prosecution says that friend was Hnatuk. The two women

were allegedly seen by several witnesses as they took the track "apparently leading nowhere" by the side of the RAF camp. Hnatuk was later seen squatting in a telephone box at the nearby village of Lamas, apparently distressed and red in the face.

Miss Lean was left dying from multiple wounds near the base's perimeter fence. When her body was found, concealed in undergrowth five days after she disappeared, last September, her leggings had been pulled down.

Hnatuk may have had a sexual motive for the killing, the jury was told. David Stokes, QC, for the prosecution, said: "She is a clever, calculating liar. However abnormal her personality, or odd, or however sexually perverted, her responsibility for this crime was not substantially impaired."

"She used her own initiative to obtain a sexual buzz from a variety of activities. There is no suggestion that Rachael was interested in sexual activities with other women, but the pulling down of the leggings may indicate this defendant may have had some sort of sexual motive for killing Rachael," he added. "The

evidence shows a wicked, calculating woman who killed a woman not only younger than her but on the threshold of her life [and] who trusted her."

Miss Lean was waiting to take up a place at Southampton University in the month she was killed.

Her killer, who, like her, enjoyed keeping fit, lived with her boyfriend, Ian Wells. The court was told that the couple had a stormy relationship with frequent noisy rows, "which ended with Hnatuk walking out of their house in bare feet".

She was devoted to him and appeared heavily under his influence, while he exhibited possessiveness and jealousy towards her former boyfriends. Mr Stokes said: "There was a time when he was keen for her to bring back other women for sexual activities. She had sexual feelings towards other women and was not averse to that."

The jury of six men and six women was told that they would be shown draft letters of an explicit nature written by Hnatuk, some of which had been recovered by police from a pond into which she had thrown them, as well as jottings which indicated "a



Rachael Lean, who was about to go to university, and her killer, Maria Hnatuk. She denies murder



considerable interest in women's buttocks."

She and her partner also drew up "bizarre so-called contracts" in which the defendant promised never to speak to other men. "They are as pathetic as they are ridiculous, but they demonstrate a complex relationship," Mr Stokes said. "People thought them a very odd couple."

After their relationship ended, Hnatuk moved to tempo-

rary bed and breakfast accommodation next door to Miss Lean and, by this time, the two women had formed a friendship. Shortly before the killing, she was living rough after being shunned by Mr Wells's mother.

Mr Stokes said Hnatuk had gone to stay with her mother in Bristol the day after Miss Lean disappeared. He described her as a "very cool customer". She had initially

denied the killing and told police that she had cut her hands in a fall.

Miss Lean was supposed to meet her mother that evening and the alert was raised after she failed to appear. After her body was found forensic scientists concluded she had suffered "a frenzied knife attack involving stab wounds to both the front and back of her body and both arms".

Mr Stokes said that, as an accomplished liar, Hnatuk had falsely accused a well known disc jockey of raping her in a hotel in Japan and launched civil proceedings. On another occasion she had wrongfully accused two airmen from RAF Coltishall of indecently assaulting her and in April 1995 started a fire at a former boyfriend's house by pouring petrol through the door at night.

The trial continues.

## Battle to save sailor trapped in hull

By JONATHAN PLYNN  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

HOPES that a sailor trapped in the hull of a capsized tug off the East Anglia coast could be rescued alive were fading last night after the boat sank during attempts to right it.

Rescuers had been fighting since early afternoon to save the seaman after knocking was heard inside the Rotterdam-registered vessel, the *Beaver*. The 190-tonne tug had been working on improvements to sea defences near Great Yarmouth on behalf of Anglia Water when it capsized with two crew members on board. Coastguards put out a mayday message to all shipping in the area and a Royal Navy minesweeper, the *HMS Dulverton*, answered the call, offering the services of a diving crew.

The divers, who were flown out by helicopter from Waddingham in Suffolk, were unable to open hatches and enter the boat to rescue the sailor because of the pressure of the water against the upside down deck. Attempts to free the man by cutting into the hull with acetylene torches had to be abandoned because of the risk of explosion.

A later plan to right the boat using a heavy marine crane from a dredger moored alongside proved unsuccessful and the tug sank in about 15 metres of water.

The Dutch sailor had been unable to escape from the boat as it turned over but was thought to have been kept alive in an air pocket in an accommodation cabin. But the tapping from the hull stopped after about two hours, raising fears that the man may have lost consciousness or died.

The other man on board the *Beaver* jumped to safety and was rescued by a passing tug. He was treated for cold and shock. A Dutch salvage team was attempting to raise the tug from the sea bed last night.

In the mid Atlantic, a flotilla of rescue boats was last night on its way to the aid of a British sailor, Michael Dunkerly, and his French crewman after their yacht floundered in heavy seas and storm-force winds.

## Cinema owner 'dressed to terrify and murdered for fun'

By JOANNA BAILE

A CINEMA owner accused of murdering four men with a combat knife was a violent and predatory sadist who dressed in black to terrify his victims, a court was told yesterday.

Peter Moore, 50, was "the man in black" with black clothes, black thoughts and the blackest of deeds. Alex Carlile, QC, for the prosecution, said, Moore, of Kinnel Bay, Abernethy and Colwyn, is charged with murdering Tony Davis, 40, Keith Randles, 49, Henry Roberts, 50, and Edward Carthy, 28, in four separate attacks last winter.

Mr Carlile told the jury at Mold

Crown Court, Flintshire, that by day, Moore gave the impression of being an unremarkable businessman with a chain of cinemas in North Wales called the Focus Group. But by night he became a sadist who killed for pleasure.

Moore was a homosexual who lived alone since the death of his mother in May 1994. The men he killed were complete strangers, none of whom had done anything to annoy or aggravate him. Mr Carlile said: "As he told the police himself, this defendant can only be described as a violent and predatory sadist." Mr Carlile said Moore killed his first victim with a combat knife bought

from a gun shop in Rhyl for £25. He used it to stab a retired railwayman, Mr Roberts, who lived on his own near Caerllog, Anglesey, on Moore's route home from his cinema in Holyhead, which he would visit late at night once or twice a week.

Mr Roberts's body was found lying face down outside his house, his trousers round his ankles and a stab wound to each buttock. There were 14 further stab wounds to the front and 13 to the back of the body.

Mr Carlile said that by an "extraordinary coincidence" Mr Roberts shared Moore's interest in Nazi paraphernalia and had a swastika flag, which police later found in

Moore's home. The knife was found in a van Moore had hired.

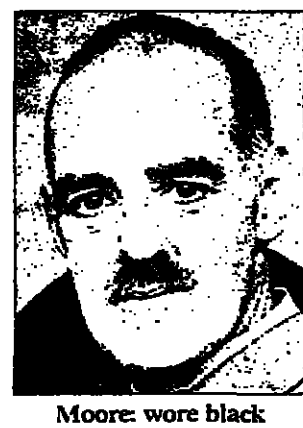
Mr Carlile claimed Moore made a detailed confession and referred to other killings and attacks dating back to the 1970s, while he was in Llandudno police station in December last year. Mr Carlile said: "Then came these terrifying words — 'I don't feel any remorse whatsoever for what I've done.' Moore was said to have added that the killing 'relieved pressure on him'."

Moore's second victim, Mr Randles, was found by construction workers at Mona, Anglesey, lying dead on his back. He had been staying overnight in a caravan on the

site, where he was in charge of security. Mr Carlile said it appeared that Mr Randles had fought for his life, but died of repeated stab wounds. A watch, a video cassette recorder and a mobile telephone were stolen, and later found in Moore's possession, he said.

Mr Carlile said Moore told police he saw yellow flashes in his eyes when he was about to kill someone or was killing somebody. "But there is no evidence at all of a psychiatric nature in this case," he said. "There is no question of insanity. There is no question of diminished responsibility."

The trial continues.



Moore wore black

## College head helps to run pub while on sick leave

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE head of one of England's largest colleges, who has been absent for six weeks suffering a stress-related illness, has been helping a female colleague to run a pub in Wales.

Neil Preston, chief executive of the 21,000-student Stoke on Trent College, and Helen Chandler, an assistant director, have been on sick leave since September 25 and 24 respectively.

A college spokeswoman said that Mr Preston, 46, whose salary package is worth £90,000 a year, and Mrs Chandler were receiving full pay, having submitted further sick notes yesterday from doctors who diagnosed stress-related illness. But *The Times* has learnt that they have been working at the Dymock Arms in Penley, Chwyd.

Wrexham Magistrates' Court granted Mrs Chandler a temporary licence to run the pub on November 8. She and Mr Preston began renovating the large oak-beamed pub after their arrival about three weeks ago.

Mr Preston's three years at Stoke, the eighth-largest further education college, have been dogged by controversy. He and Mrs Chandler are under investigation by a special governors' committee after a series of staff complaints. Naïffe, the lecturers

union, published a survey of 125 members in July claiming that Mr Preston's management style was "dictatorial and bullying". College management dismissed the survey as "hardly representative" of Stoke's 1,500 staff.

The Naïffe survey was followed by one of 203 Unison staff, which found that 97 per cent lacked confidence in the management and 64 per cent said that they had suffered harassment or bullying.

News of Mrs Chandler's alternative employment comes at a time of financial difficulty for the college. It has been seeking urgent voluntary redundancies after receiving £3.4 million less than requested from the Further Education Funding Council for its annual budget.

Mr Preston was formerly



Preston on sick leave since September 25

principal at Amersham & Wycombe College, Buckinghamshire, where Mrs Chandler was his deputy. He was criticised when he left Amersham & Wycombe in 1993 for appointing Mrs Chandler as acting principal in his place, without properly consulting the governors. She joined Stoke on Trent college as assistant director in charge of marketing in June 1994.

There was no sign of Mr Preston or Mrs Chandler at the pub yesterday. Mrs Chandler works behind the bar on Saturday and Sunday evenings, and has boasted to customers that in 12 weeks she had trebled the turnover.

Caroline Highland, a spokeswoman for Stoke college, said that they were still full-time employees. "We have received further sick notes for Neil Preston and Helen Chandler covering a period of two months."

Neil Preston, 46, is separated from his wife, Christine, with whom he has four children. He studied hotel and catering management at Surrey University and ran a hotel from 1978 to 1981. He was appointed head of food and service industries at the College of Arts and Technology at Newcastle upon Tyne before becoming vice-principal at Lowestoft College, Suffolk, from where he moved to principal at Amersham & Wycombe College in 1988.

## Lecturer says student made life a misery

By RICHARD DUCE

A WOMAN student stalked her university lecturer for 18 months after falsely accusing him of sexual harassment, the High Court was told yesterday. Life became a misery for Dr Robert Fine, a senior lecturer in sociology at Warwick University.

Ashley Underwood, for Dr Fine, said that on scores of occasions Eileen McLardy stood silently outside his home and peered at him through the windows. His car was either damaged or stolen five times during what a "vendetta" that also involved break-ins at his home and his university office.

Dr Fine, 50, is seeking an injunction preventing Mrs McLardy, a mature student, from molesting or harassing him at work, or going within 30 yards of his home. He is also seeking damages against her. Documents placed before the court claim that on 134 separate occasions Mrs McLardy, 50, a mother of three from Coventry, carried out a vendetta against Dr Fine.

Dr Fine told the court he had had words with Mrs McLardy after she insulted a student. "The following week she asked to come to my room and there she accused me of sexually harassing her." She vowed to destroy him.

The case continues.

## Ex-owner 'harassed' house buyers

By JOANNA BAILE

A MAN whose cottage was repossessed launched a frightening campaign against the couple who bought it, a court was told yesterday. The new owners, a whisky executive and his wife, were forced to leave house twice in two years to try to escape the attention of Stephen McDougall, who said they owed him £35,000. It was claimed at Dumbarton Sheriff Court.

Kevin and Samantha Ayre, both 35, said that they ultimately had to leave Scotland for the South of England, and Mr Ayre had to quit as manpower services director for Allied Distillers in Strathclyde. Mr McDougall, 42, of

Bearsden, Glasgow, denies causing a breach of the peace and placing the couple in fear for their safety. He was said to have harassed them, made inquiries into the private affairs of Mr Ayre, pretended to Mrs Ayre that he was a tax inspector and questioned her about financial affairs, and attempted to induce a postman to supply details of their home. He also allegedly hired a private detective to spy on them.

The court was told that Mr McDougall was disgruntled after failing to sell his cottage in Milngavie, near Glasgow, for £130,000. It was sold for £90,000 after it was repossessed by a bank.

James Cusick, a Milngavie postman, said Mr McDougall approached him in

the car park of the village sorting office at 5.25am: "He asked me if I knew who lived at the house. He said, 'There's a fiver in it for you.' I didn't tell him."

A former neighbour, Linda Connolly, 41, a social worker, said that Mr McDougall called one Saturday morning asking the couple's whereabouts. "The man said he was a headhunter and wanted to offer Kevin a job. I didn't tell him anything. I found the whole thing strange."

The boss of a private investigation firm, Sydney Miller, 57, said: "He wanted us to find out the ownership of certain properties and other details about a Mr Ayre."

The case continues.

New from America

# Advil

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**"We want public and Parliament to understand the human and economic costs of the new Firearms Bill. The Dunblane horror was the crime of one evil man, yet a whole community has been blamed. If the Firearms Bill becomes law it will be an historic injustice."**

Albie Fox, Chairman, the Sportsman's Association

## The Sportsman's Association

of Great Britain & Northern Ireland

**"This is an issue which should be of concern to everyone. It is not just the question of job losses, mass confiscation of private property or the destruction of a traditional sport. It is about how we should make law in a modern democracy. Why has Lord Cullen's report been torn up?"**

Mike Yardley, National Spokesman, the Sportsman's Association

# The Firearms (Amendment) Bill

**Today our members of Parliament will debate this bill. It is unlikely to affect conventional armed crime or prevent another Dunblane tragedy, but it will:**

**Cause the immediate loss of at least 2,000 jobs**

**Cost the tax payer more than £300 Million**

**Confiscate private property on an unprecedented scale\***

\* Partial compensation may be paid for guns but not other related equipment and accessories

**Ignore the advice of Lord Cullen's Inquiry**

**Distract attention from the policing failure at Dunblane\***

\* Thomas Hamilton was investigated 7 times without action being taken against him

**Destroy target pistol shooting as we know it – a sport at which Britain excels**

**Jeopardize the future of all British shooting sports**

**Do nothing to prevent criminals getting guns illegally\***

\* Most experts believe that there are more illegally owned guns than legal ones

**Bring Parliament and the law into disrepute**

## Do you really think the Government's bill will work? Or do you just wish it would?

If the honest answer to the last question is 'yes', spare a few moments' thought for this country's shooting men and women. In a mature democracy, the only excuse for the removal of a freedom is a real public benefit. But the Firearms Bill as presented, will not work. It is a simplistic response to a complex problem. It is illogical, it scapegoats the innocent and may aggravate the problem of firearms crime.

### So what should be done?

The Sportsman's Association is not for the status quo. We want improved laws and better police procedures for firearm certification. We believe that there is a need for a centralised, national firearms licensing authority staffed by specialists. One of the great weaknesses of the present system is that police officers may be sent out on firearm enquiry duties without adequate training or knowledge.

In his evidence to the Parliamentary Home Affairs Committee on the Possession of Handguns, Sir James Sharpley, President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said that bans would not work and that the police service had learnt that it needed to pay more attention to the personal suitability of the individual. Although ACPO's position has subsequently changed, we think the truth in Sir James' comments is clear.

### How the Sportsman's Association began

The Sportsman's Association was formed at Bisley (the National Shooting Centre) on the 19th October, 1996. Six hundred ordinary people gathered

because they were alarmed by Government proposals. In three weeks, 40,000 more have joined their ranks. We are still growing by several thousand members a day. Our target is a million members.

### Who has joined the Sportsman's Association?

As well as Olympians and other champions our membership includes thousands of ordinary men and women from all walks of life. We all believe that the Government's proposed firearms legislation is wrong. It ignores Lord Cullen's advice and creates an ominous precedent for introducing drastic, irrational legislation as a response to calamity. If, despite our best efforts, the Firearms Bill becomes law, we will challenge its legality in home and European courts.

### What will the bill do?

The proposals will outlaw full-bore handguns and impose draconian restrictions on .22 pistols. This may be just the beginning. One Labour MP, Martin Redmond, has asked Parliament to ban shotguns "except for pest control on agricultural land". Such radical measures, supported by the anti-gun lobby, would cause chaos in the countryside, eliminate nearly a million certificate holders and destroy the proud sports of game and clay shooting.

Powerful pressure groups such as the police staff associations are calling for rifles, shotguns, airguns, and replicas to be outlawed. Such measures will be ignored by criminals and may criminalize the law-abiding. Calls to ban one object or another fail to address the real problem: *who or what will be the next victim of this syndrome?*

## Our Champions Say...



**"The media have not reported the fact that existing laws, however they might be improved, would have prevented this atrocity had they been properly enforced. Thousands of people's lives will be dislocated if the Firearms Bill becomes law without any benefit to public safety."**

Sarah Cooper, Olympian and Commonwealth Gold Medalist



**"What the Government are doing is wrong. They are persecuting innocent people and ignoring the failure of Central Scotland Police in Hamilton's case. I've got nothing against strict law, but it must be based in logic. This bill will result in bad law. It's just another Dangerous Dogs Act."**

John Bidwell, reigning World FITASC Sporting Clays Champion



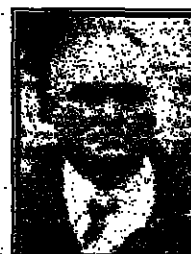
**"I am disgusted that this country, admired the world over for democracy and fairness, and which I was so proud to represent, is about to wipe out a harmless sport. It is being blamed for the negligence of the authorities who – had they applied the law as it is – would have prevented Hamilton's atrocity being carried out with a legally held firearm."**

Malcolm Cooper MBE, double Olympic Champion and holder of six Commonwealth Games Gold Medals



**"I was horrified by what happened in Dunblane. But it is unjust that sporting shooters should be punished for this terrible crime. If these proposals go through it will wipe out our Olympic prospects in Sydney in 2000."**

Carol Page, British Olympic Pistol Shooting Team



**"If the bill becomes law, the faces of many disabled sportsmen will be profoundly affected. Pistol shooting is one of the few sports where we can compete with the able bodied on equal terms and win."**

Bob Everitt, disabled shot, Great Britain Pistol Team

The Sportsman's Association  
No. 1 Sentinel Works  
Whitchurch Road, Shrewsbury Salop SY1 4DP

### The Sportsman's Association

of Great Britain & Northern Ireland  
No 1, Sentinel Works, Whitchurch Road, Shrewsbury, Salop, SY1 4DP  
Telephone / fax: 01743 - 461 689  
or 01743 - 874 905

### JOIN US NOW!

If you are concerned about liberty and justice, we need you. As well as joining the Sportsman's Association we ask you to write at once to your MP. The address is: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Membership Application Form

I apply for membership of the Sportsman's Association of Great Britain and agree to abide by its Constitution & Rules. I wish to register my protest against the proposed legislation to restrict participation in shooting sports. I agree that the Association may keep my details on computer and that the Association may rely on the exemption from registering under the Data Protection Act.

I enclose my Membership Fee (minimum £5.00 Adults or £1.00 for junior members under 18) made payable to SAGB.

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OCCUPATION			
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The Sportsman's Association, No 1, Sentinel Works, Whitchurch Road, Shrewsbury, Salop, SY1 4DP. Telephone / fax: 01743 - 461 689



## Executive sues for drink diagnosis that cost job

By ADRIAN LEE

A BRIGHTER life beckoned for a middle-aged executive when he was headhunted by a television company. Peter Baker felt confident that he had passed a pre-employment medical and headed in his notice from his old job.

Then everything changed. The company doctor concluded that he had a drink problem. The company withdrew the job offer, along with the incentive plan, the car and the secretary.

Yesterday Mr Baker, 53, began a claim for damages against Dr Georges Kaye, by telling the High Court that he drank an average of one or two glasses of wine a day and that there had never been a question mark over his drinking in a 22-year career.

He admitted that a blood sample at his medical might have been affected by the fact that he had recently attended a business congress in Monte Carlo, where he consumed a bottle of wine a day. Robert Seabrook, QC, for Dr Kaye, suggested that an employer would find that level unsatisfactory. Mr Baker replied: "If



Georges Kaye: advised firm against job offer

every employer took that view, there would be nobody in the industry."

Mr Baker, a father of three from Great Bookham, Surrey, is claiming damages for the doctor's alleged breach of his duty of care to make a proper assessment of his health for NBC Btropic, where he had hoped to become the £45,000-a-year head of international sales. It is believed to be the first time a court has been asked to decide if a company physician owes a duty of care to a prospective employee.

Mr Baker, whose previous

employers included Warner Brothers, said he was angry and shocked when told of Dr Kaye's assessment, made in February 1991. He was recalled for a second blood test after the first showed abnormalities. Questioned about his drinking habits, he had said "Monte Carlo was exceptional and an occupational hazard". At home he might go without alcohol for days then share one bottle of wine with his wife during a meal out.

Dr Kaye, an occupational physician, of Kensington, west London, said Mr Baker's blood tests were highly suggestive of an alcohol problem. He was concerned it might become an issue in a job involving foreign travel twice a fortnight and effectively becoming the "face of NBC".

The doctor, who had conducted medicals for the company for more than ten years, said he recalled Mr Baker, eliminated other possibilities for the test results, then questioned him about his drinking habits. "It was very hard to get a history out of him. I felt he was defective, on guard."

Dr Kaye said he reached the conclusion that Mr Baker

drank about 35 units of alcohol per week — the equivalent of about 4½ bottles of wine. He denied describing Mr Baker as a regular heavy drinker but concluded he was a "spree drinker". He added: "I felt he had given me ample evidence that, when paid by an employer to do work in the course of a professional assignment, he was likely to consume quantities of alcohol that were likely to interfere with the crispness of his thinking process."

The doctor sought a second opinion from a colleague before deciding that Mr Baker should not be employed: "I lose sleep over such questions," he said.

Mr Baker's wife, Beryl, told the court: "My husband doesn't drink too much." She said that she had never known them to share more than one bottle of wine with a meal. During the week, he might drink one or two glasses of wine a day. "When you have to go to work, there is nothing worse than waking up with a hangover. If we went out, we would share a bottle, but we would always have a bottle of Perrier with it."

The case continues.



Peter Baker: conference was "occupational hazard"

## Unionists wary of tourism link with Republic

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A £30 MILLION advertising campaign was launched yesterday to promote Northern Ireland and the Republic as a single tourism destination. But some unionists in Northern Ireland reacted angrily to the joint venture.

Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said it was another step on the road to a united Ireland. "The political intention of the pan-nationalist front is to graft Northern Ireland on to all-Ireland structures in a gradual and unobtrusive way."

Baroness Denton of Wakefield, Minister for the Northern Ireland economy, who was at the launch in Dublin yesterday, dismissed Mr Taylor's protests. She said it was a "very exciting" commercial arrangement that would secure more jobs in the tourism industry. The Northern Ireland Tourism Board expects that the campaign will yield about £27 million and 720 jobs over the next three years.

John Taylor, of the Ulster Unionist Party, welcomed the

deal but said that he would be examining all promotional material for traces of the Irish tricolour. "If there is the slightest misrepresentation of the position of Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom then we will object very strongly," he said. There will also be television advertisements shown in the United States, France, Germany and Britain.

Tourism in the North reached an all-time high during the IRA ceasefire. It is now worth more than £200 million a year in Northern Ireland and provides 12,000 jobs. In the Republic, tourism is growing at seven times the rate of the rest of Europe. It generates £2.3 billion a year and has created 100,000 jobs.

Seventy-seven groups from north and south of the border were represented on the first joint stand at the World Travel Market yesterday. The travel market, at Earls Court in London, is the largest international tourism convention.

Leading article, page 19

### MEDICAL BRIEFING

## Blood tests and appearances may be deceptive

SIR WILLIAM OSLER, the Oxford physician and father of modern medicine, believed in on-the-spot diagnosis. He said that no doctor would succeed unless he learnt to sum up his patients in the time it took them to walk from the consulting-room door to the chair by his desk.

Osler must have spotted many heavy drinkers as he watched them cross his room, but his diagnosis can only have been a provisional one, no more than a suspicion. Today ten millilitres of blood sent to the pathology laboratory will give a far more accurate assessment.

Even a cursory glance, however, shows that the middle-aged male heavy drinker has a different shape from his less bibulous contemporary. Those who drink to excess have spindly arms and legs with wasted muscles, heavy breasts, a prominent abdomen and a scrawny bottom. Closer examination may reveal thinning body hair and shrivelled genitalia.

The skin of the face will probably be thickened with prominent small veins. If the man is a very heavy drinker he has about a one in seven chance of displaying signs of liver failure: prominent veins which look like the body of a red spider, a coarse shake to his hand and a tongue which flicks in and out like a viper's. Blood tests will show abnormal liver function. A routine blood biochemistry test measures five enzyme levels that are applicable to liver function. Many condi-

tions may interfere with liver function, however, and these will have to be judged in conjunction with the physical examination and the patient's history. The blood count is also significant because the red cells of a heavy drinker will be fewer in number but larger in size.

Few heavy drinkers like to admit the habit. Most under-rate the amount they drink when they talk to their doctor. Therefore doctors must be extremely careful when they attribute physical signs and abnormal laboratory results to high alcohol consumption.

Medical examinations are an important part of the job-selection process. The future of the firm, and of other workers' continuing employment, may depend on finding the right man. But the doctor's role must always be to assess the patient's physical and mental health; he must never be judgemental about the patient's lifestyle, unless it affects either of these.

One of the problems when assessing drinking patterns is that the Government's guidelines on safe drinking, although sounder than they were, are still lower than need be for most people. The Government, understandably, has to play safe and set a limit that will encompass not only the average person but those who are least likely, because of their physique, to be able to deal adequately with alcohol.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

### Baby given flying start

A PREGNANT woman flying to Hong Kong from London was in luck when her baby opted for an unscheduled arrival. On board was John Hayworth, consultant in the accident and emergency unit at Southampton General Hospital, who played midwife.

Karen Pitt, of British Airways, also helped and has visited mother and daughter in hospital in Hong Kong. Mr Hayworth said: "The birth was normal and quick and the baby did all the right things." A colleague, Andrew McQuitty, said that as he was an instructor in paediatric life-support, the baby could not have been in better hands.

□ Mrs Selina Chow asks us to make clear that in her speech in the Hong Kong Legislative Council she did not, contrary to our report of October 24, say that the Government had received information critical of Mr Lawrence Leung, nor indeed suggest anything to his discredit. She was arguing for the establishment of a select committee to put an end to speculation about Mr Leung's departure from his post as director of immigration. We regret the error.

□ Vipassana meditation (article, October 29) is non-sectarian and may be practised by people from all backgrounds. The Vipassana Trust's address is Harewood End, Hereford HR2 8JS.



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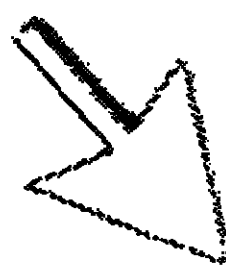


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# The Baby Killers are back

Just a few months ago, the Canadian Government subsidized the mass slaughter of over a quarter of a million harp and hooded seals (268,921). Official reports show that roughly three out of four (75.48%\*) harp seals killed were just days or weeks old . . . they were baby seals.

This is the biggest Canadian seal hunt for a quarter of a century and the largest slaughter of marine mammals in the world today. Baby seals are clubbed or shot. Some are skinned alive. Older animals are also shot and unknown numbers of seals are wounded and left to suffer.

Now, Government advisors and politicians want to expand the slaughter.

"this year I hope we are going to have 350,000 plus, probably 400,000." (John Efford, Canadian Newfoundland Fisheries Minister, interviewed on CKIX-FM News, Newfoundland, 21st October 1996).

Up to 400,000 seals could be killed this Spring, unless you do something to help us save them. The kill quotas should be announced in December, so we have to act fast.

International fur dealers are also working behind the scenes to get the

European trade ban on 'whitecoat' and 'blueback' seal pups lifted, so their skins can once again be legally sold right here in the UK.

This hunt is cruel. It's wasteful, and it's got to stop. Now.

Seventy percent of Canadians are opposed to the killing of baby seals. But they need our help to put pressure on their Government. Many Canadian companies do business in the UK and they must be encouraged to tell their Government that the British love Canada, but hate sealing.

If you don't fight for the seals, who will?

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# Pregnant women face biggest risk of domestic violence

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PREGNANT women are in greater danger of being beaten by their husbands and boyfriends, according to research in North America. In one Canadian study 7 per cent of mothers-to-be were abused. Jealousy of the unborn baby, sexual frustration or money problems when a woman gives up work were most likely to be the causes. Warning signs were said to include fathers-to-be always accompanying their wives to

the ante-natal clinic to stop them from reporting attacks. Christine Bewley, senior lecturer in midwifery at Middlesex University, told an international conference in Brighton entitled Violence, Abuse and Women's Citizenship: "Pregnancy can actually act as a trigger for domestic violence to begin or to escalate. There have been reports of foetal injury so that babies are born with abdominal organs ruptured or broken bones."

## Midwives told to look for danger signs

Ms Bewley has helped to train 400 British midwives in the past four years to look for clues of domestic abuse. "The man who is abusing his pregnant partner will stay with her because he is afraid that, if she is on her own, she will say something. Watch couples together. Is that fellow with his partner because he is loving and supportive, or be-

cause he doesn't want her to talk?" Midwives were more likely to take action if they feared the unborn baby was at risk, rather than to protect the mother, she said. Midwives have been urged to look for women who fail to keep appointments, make frequent complaints of headaches or sleeplessness, abuse alcohol or

menopause, or are pregnant — I don't think many people would give that credence." She and Andrew Gibbs, of the Faculty of Health Studies at Napier University, Edinburgh, were the first to prepare guidelines for British midwives about domestic violence, but their work has met resistance in the midwifery and medical establishments.

Ms Bewley gave as an example of prejudice a consultant obstetrician's remark that "many women enjoy violence. It makes them feel sexy." Mr Gibbs said: "Some colleges of midwives won't even let me in the classroom."

The Royal College of Midwives in Scotland has now recognised the issue by hosting a study session and some training establishments included the study of domestic violence on midwifery courses. A review of all research evidence in the United States

published by the *Journal of Nurse-Midwifery* suggests one in 50 pregnant women will be beaten. A study of 40 families in New Hampshire with no known history of violence found that a quarter of the women had been beaten during pregnancy. A study in Islington, north London, published in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*, found that 25 per cent of working-class mothers had been beaten and many had reported more severe violence during pregnancy.

# Teachers in vogue reveal secrets of the school for style

By EMMA WILKINS

TEACHERS at Earlham School in Norwich yesterday disclosed the secrets of the dress sense that caught the eye of Gillian Shepherd and agreed with the Education Secretary's comments that a smart appearance was vital to set pupils a good example.

Mrs Shepherd said on BBC's *On the Record* programme on Sunday that all the 55 staff had been smartly dressed when she visited the comprehensive school in June, but the female teachers looked "as though they had stepped out of the pages of *Vogue*".

Olwen Freemantle, 44, a modern languages teacher, buys her suits from Marks & Spencer in Norwich because, she said, they were good value. "I do think it's important to look smart because it sets a good example to the pupils if teachers look tidy and neat. I think the children might find the suggestion that we appear in *Vogue* rather amusing but I shan't be changing my career."

Mrs Freemantle, who has three children and has taught at the school for four years, was wearing a black suit, white shirt and black shoes



Shepherd said women were like fashion models

yesterday. Her outfit was set off with a gold necklace, diamond rings and soft red nail varnish. "I don't think there is any need for a formal dress code for teachers," she said. "Most men wear suits and for women good taste is what counts."

Sandra Howard, who teaches English and is one of two deputy heads, said she bore her position in mind when choosing clothes. "You have an image to maintain. It's important to be smart and quite formal in my position as it gives the children an image to look up to," she said.

Mrs Howard, who bought her black wool pinstripe suit

in a sale at John Lewis in Norwich for £100, said it was slightly more than she usually spent. "I think teachers dress appropriately to the job they are doing. If you are teaching in a primary school you might be crawling around on all fours on the floor," Mrs Howard, who was wearing a pair of tiny silver dancing elephant earrings, said they were a present from an elderly neighbour and one of her favourite pieces of jewellery.

However, she emphasised that appearance was not the teachers' most valuable asset. "The day that Mrs Shepherd came I do agree that the staff dressed smartly, but that's not the most important thing about this school — it's the fact that the teachers are dedicated and care about all the children."

William Dashley, a history teacher, said he warmly approved of Mrs Shepherd's praise. "I do agree with her. I present my lessons well and I do believe it is very important that I look smart. I used to work for Norwich Union and we were expected to wear a suit there, so I still do wear a suit now to work."

Mr Dashley's dark grey suit came from Marks & Spencer. "I do like looking for nice



Model teachers: from left, Paul Ranger, Olwen Freemantle, William Dashley, Sandra Howard and David Shiret show their dress sense

bright ties to set off my suit. If I ever came in looking scruffy the children would pass comment, I am quite sure of it." The school, which came third from bottom of Norfolk's 65 secondary schools in last year's examination league

tables, introduced a dress code after abolishing school uniform in September last year. Pupils must wear a white shirt, navy or black trousers or skirts, and a navy sweatshirt. It is up to parents to make sure that their child-

ren comply. The school blazer and tie were replaced because the uniform became too expensive for many parents. Mrs Freemantle said: "The boys, especially, were growing out of their blazers too quickly and that caused a

problem. We wanted to make a practical alternative so we set up a working party with the governors and agreed on the change."

The fame of Earlham might lead to rivalry with other schools in Norfolk. George

Turner, chairman of Norfolk County Council education committee, said: "I can see there being a fashion competition now between teachers over the next few weeks."

Letters, page 19

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Army records of Great War give details of the horrors that returning soldiers kept to themselves

## Revealed at last: official files on life in trenches

By RUSSELL JENKINS

FAMILIES of those who served in the Great War were able to discover more yesterday about what happened to them, after service records of ordinary soldiers in the conflict were made available to the public.

The 750,000 files of individual soldiers that have been transferred on to microfilm at the Public Record Office in Kew, west London, are the first phase in the staggered release of material that historians believe will change our views of the First World War. Further releases of the records of "other ranks" and officers, and of those who served in the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Navy are expected to follow.

William Spencer, the Public Record Office's adviser in records of defence policy and military history, said: "They will be of great interest to people finding ancestors who served as Tommies, as well as to academics of all sorts — from demographers interested in the height or weight of Kitchener's army to the social historian wanting to know about the background of the men who fought on the Somme."

"We expect something of a stampede when word gets out that these records contain quite a lot of interesting information about people's fathers and grandfathers."

The yellowing and faded enlistment, discharge and medical papers reflect the military obsession with form-filling. Every medical check-up is recorded in detail on a soldier's records until the simple words "missing in action" or "dead" are written in immaculate copperplate. The

commonplace horror and heroism is plain, nevertheless.

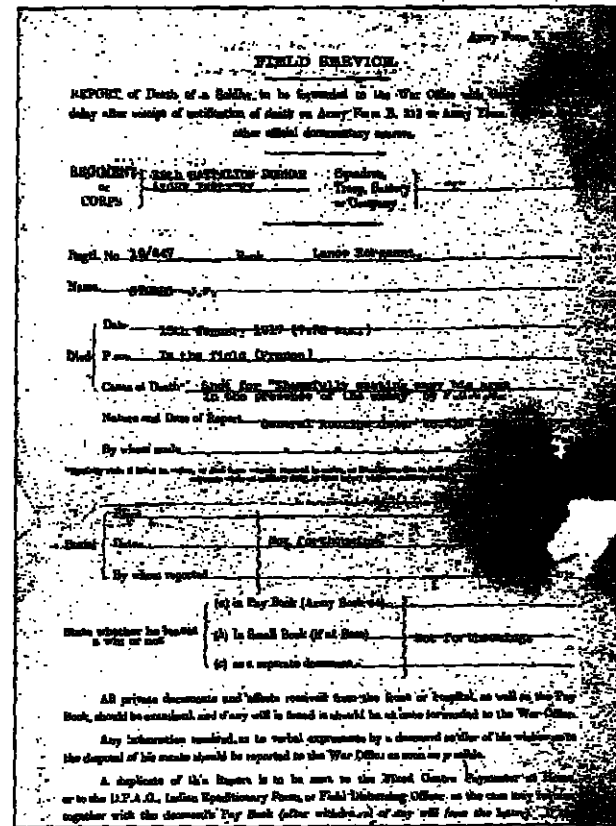
The class system strikes one as brutish. Edward Dwyer, the youngest man in the Army to be awarded the Victoria Cross, was killed in action on the Somme on September 3, 1916. Despite his courageous exploits, there is no mention of his passing in the battalion war diary because it records only the deaths of officers.

In total, the original documents take up nearly two miles of shelving at Hayes and are held in more than 42,800 boxes. Only 8 per cent of the Army's files were released because most — about 60 per cent — were destroyed by fire during the Blitz in 1940.

The remainder were so badly damaged by fire or water that they require special care. The Public Record Office has received £350,000 to fund a pilot study to discover whether it is feasible to place these documents on microfilm.

When the Australians released equivalent records they received more than 12,000 inquiries in the first year. "You can multiply that figure by ten, relative to the number of documents," Mr Spencer said, adding that the releases would continue into early in the next century. The Ministry of Defence papers for the officers — 1.6 million in all — will not be released until 1998.

Kay Payne, of the Friends of the PRO, said: "My father told me nothing about his experience in the war, and other people have said the same about their relatives. Life was so bad in the Twenties that they didn't talk about it, it seems. I am looking forward to filling in some of the gaps."



War and remembrance: a display about Edward Dwyer, the death report on the executed Joseph Stones, and Clarence Jarman, the Somme victim who lived to be 100

## The boys who lied to fight like men

THE entries on Edward Dwyer's casualty form record that he went down with measles, was treated for a septic heel, awarded the highest military award for gallantry, and died on the Somme.

They do not do justice to the remarkable story of a teenager who lied about his age to enlist at 17, became the war's youngest winner of the Victoria Cross, returned home as a celebrity, then re-enlisted.

He became a hero in April 1915 at Hill 60 near Ypres. A handwritten diary by a senior officer recalls how, braving enemy fire, Dwyer stood up and threw grenades at German lines. He was 19.

The action ensured celebrity status back home in Fulham, southwest London. On his return, he was feted by the local press and used by the War Office, anxious to exploit his new-found fame as a focus for war propaganda. He made a record about his experiences at the front and

### TEENAGE VC

performed a rousing patriotic song. In December 1915 he married a nurse, Maude Barrett-Freeman, but he found life at home too tame and re-enlisted for service on the front line. He was killed on September 3, 1916.

Papers also reveal how another teenager, George Alfred Redrup, of Prestwood, Buckinghamshire, lied about his age to join the King's Royal Rifle Corps in November 1914. He was 15. His true age came to light only when he was wounded, and his records say he was "discharged having made mis-statements as to age". He was allowed to keep his 1914-15 Star and Victory Medal.

Once he had recovered, he re-enlisted with the Third Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment, again lying about his age. He was killed at the Battle of Aisne in 1918.

## Pardon sought for disgraced sergeant

SENTENCED to death on Christmas Eve 1917, Lance Sergeant Joseph William Stones, of 19 Durham Light Infantry, the Banter, was shot at dawn for "shamefully casting away his arms in the presence of the enemy" at Arras.

According to the official record, the 5ft 2in former miner died in disgrace. Among his family his name was never mentioned. His widow, Elizabeth, denied a pension, moved and married another miner three months later. Eighty years on, his great-nephew, Tom Stones, has launched a campaign to pardon the 25-year-old NCO from Crook, Co Durham.

The facts are stark. At 2am on November 26, 1917, Stones was patrolling a mined area with a lieutenant when they were surprised by a German raiding party and the officer was killed. Stones dropped his rifle and made his way to the rear to raise the alarm, but

was stopped by military policemen and held with two sentries. Lance Corporals Peter Giggins and John McDonald, who had also fled.

Despite his good fighting record and previous good character, Stones received the ultimate penalty, as did the other two. All three were shot in mid-January.

After extensive research at the Durham Light Infantry Museum and through family records, Tom Stones, 56, a microbiologist from Stafford, believes his relative was wrongly executed for trying to raise the alarm.

"I was angry at first and now I just want a pardon. He was a scapegoat. You do not get to be a sergeant in the Durham Light Infantry for being first in the cookhouse queue, but he was taken out in a French farmyard and shot like a rat."

## Somme amputee lived to be 100

WOUNDED on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, Clarence Jarman defied the odds to outlive his contemporaries and overcome the loss of his right leg. But he suffered pain until he died at the age of 100, the day before Remembrance Sunday.

Mr Jarman, a private in the Royal West Surrey Regiment, was one of the 40,000 injured on July 1, 1916. Pages of medical notes, on faded blue and green paper, tell of his progress from field hospitals to antiseptic isolation wards.

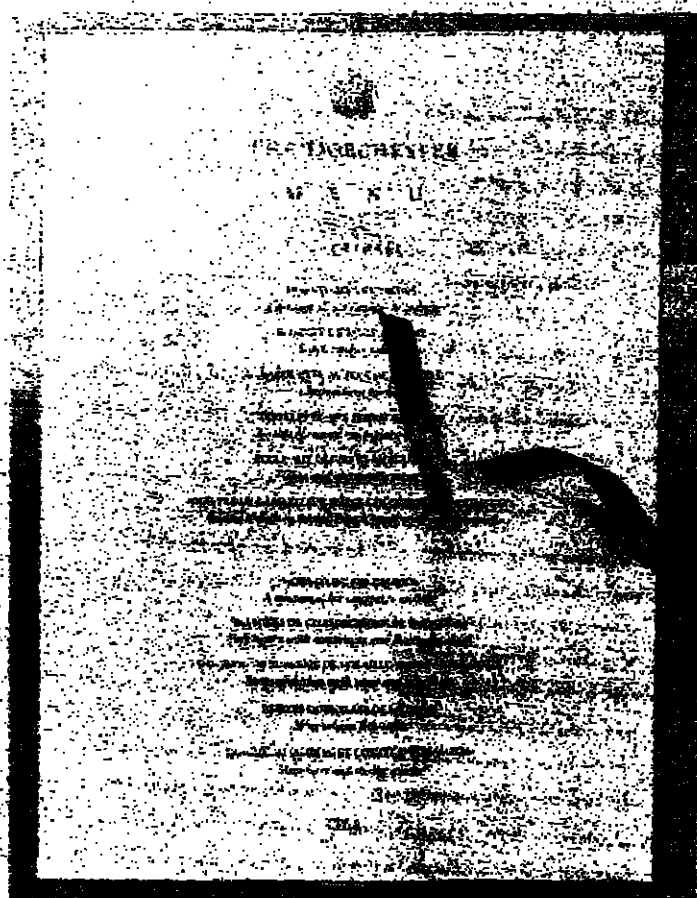
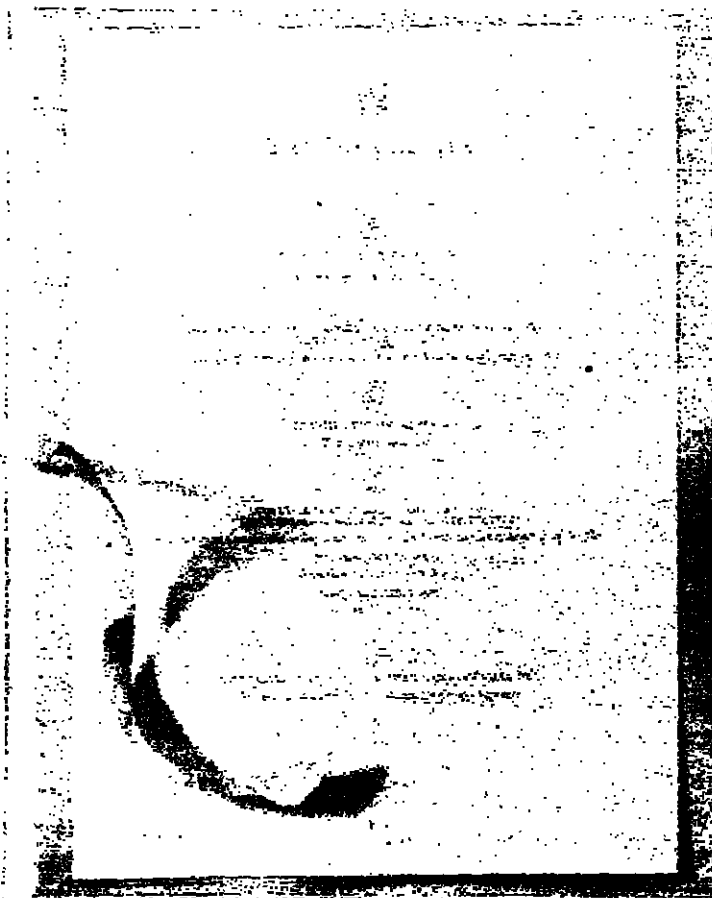
His part in the advance at Fricourt was ended by shrapnel in his right calf. He received emergency treatment at Corbie, where a medical orderly wrote of a serious infection in the wound. The infection spread inexorably up his leg. From Corbie he went to Amiens, then Abbeville, on to the 3rd Canadian Hospital at Boulogne. He was then shipped home to a hospital in Aberdeen, where doc-

tors decided that his leg was beyond saving.

Mr Jarman received a certificate of sobriety and noteworthiness and left the Army to work for 36 years as a school attendance officer in Woking, Surrey. He retained a keen interest in sport, playing cricket as a wicketkeeper for 20 years, swimming until he was 88 and being a long-serving committee member of Woking Football Club.

Yesterday his second wife, Adela, 80, recalled her 34 years with the old soldier who was known as Charlie to his friends and family. "He was a very kind person who was always helpful, and a great sportsman. He always said he enjoyed the comradeship of his years in the Army and he was never bitter about losing his leg. He never let it stop him doing anything, even though he suffered dreadful pain."

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# Britain answers the call to stand in silence



Girls at the Royal School in Hampstead, north London, standing with heads bowed in remembrance yesterday. Police brought traffic in Parliament Square, in the shadow of Big Ben, to a halt for two minutes after it had struck eleven

By DANIEL MCGROWY

CHILDREN stood by their desks with heads bowed, police halted on their beats, factory workers downed tools and office staff took their telephones off the hook. They were joining the nation's old soldiers yesterday in observing two minutes' silence in memory of those who gave their lives in war.

As the clocks struck eleven, much of the country came to a halt. Tannoy at railway stations and airports asked passengers to stand still. Planes at Heathrow airport turned off their engines, and in one of the terminal buildings a bugler sounded *Last Post*.

The usual bustle on the floor of the City's financial institutions was quietened as traders in their brightly coloured blazers turned off computers and stood in absolute silence. At the giant Liffe building in London, over 2,500 staff from the International Financial

Futures and Options Exchange stopped their usually frenetic dealing.

The Royal British Legion had asked the country to mark Armistice Day and the moment the fighting stopped in the First World War — the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of

1918 — with the two minutes' silence. Charles Lewis of the legion said: "Support has exceeded our greatest expectations. We are so very grateful to the British people who clearly showed they want this to be an annual event."

It was during the planning of celebrations for the fiftieth

anniversary of VE-Day that senior figures in the legion proposed there should be a silence as a chain of bonfires was lit around the coastline to mark the end of the Second World War. The enthusiastic support the legion received, particularly from the young, prompted a group of advisers

to argue for the return of the observance once given to Armistice Day.

Jeremy Lillies, head of public affairs at the legion's headquarters in Pall Mall, remembers how pessimistic the organisation was that Britain could once again recapture public support for such a

demonstration. "Old soldiers still paused for two minutes wherever they were, but we had doubts if it was still relevant to the British people," he said.

It was in 1946 that the Government proposed Remembrance Sunday as the occasion for Britain to honour

its war dead. "Somehow, Armistice Day just fell by the wayside," Mr Lillies said. "Even up to the late Fifties and early Sixties everyone would stop driving. Buses pulled over, people stopped, the noise was still for those precious minutes."

He said that when the

legion was examining the success of the call for a silence to mark VE-Day, "what was particularly striking was that young people were the most enthusiastic". He added: "We believe that the two minutes' silence will be part of the country's calendar from now on."

Its success could be judged yesterday by the stilling of tills from the corner shop to the big stores; silence on radio and television; a drop in electricity demand "big enough to power a city the size of Leeds"; and a request from the National Lottery for its 30,000 outlets to suspend ticket sales for two minutes.

Lord Healey and Lord Merlyn-Rees have launched a campaign to make Second World War poetry part of the National Curriculum. They believe the standard of the poetry published this week in *The Voice of War* (Penguin Books, £7.99) is so good it ought to be studied in schools.



Shoppers at the Tesco store in Fools Cray, southeast London, joined much of the country in observing the two minutes' silence, as did futures traders at Liffe in the City

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# I needed no advice from junior whip, says inquiry MP

By James Landale, Alice Thomson and Andrew Pierce

THE MP who would have chaired the original inquiry into the cash-for-questions affair said yesterday that he was not even aware that David Willetts was a Tory whip when they discussed the matter.

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith also said that the memorandum of the conversation that led to claims that the whips were putting pressure on him to delay the proceedings was partially inaccurate.

Sir Geoffrey was chairman of the Members' Interests Committee, which planned an investigation into allegations against the former trade minister Neil Hamilton before it was replaced by the Standards and Privileges Committee. Giving evidence to that committee's inquiry yesterday, he denied charges that he had succumbed to pressure from the whips.

He told the hearing that with more than 20 years experience he had not needed to take the advice of Mr Willetts, then a young and newly appointed whip. "I neither sought advice nor did I expect anyone to give me advice," Sir Geoffrey said. "I didn't necessarily assume that Mr Willetts was going to report [the conversation], I wasn't even sure that Mr Willetts was a whip."

Willetts had sought improperly to persuade Sir Geoffrey in 1994 either to rush through an inquiry into Mr Hamilton or delay it by exploiting "the good Tory majority" on his committee, or by claiming that any discussion would be sub judice.

A handwritten note by Mr Willetts of a conversation he had with Sir Geoffrey was circulated to MPs at yesterday's hearing and clearly showed that Mr Willetts had given the chairman the two choices. Answering questions from Tony Newton, the new committee's chairman, Sir Geoffrey defended Mr Willetts as a "highly respected member of the House". But he made it clear that he had completely misunderstood the "chat" they had had together and that he was not seeking any advice from Mr Willetts on how he should proceed.

Sir Geoffrey told Mr Newton, the Leader of the House, that as far as he could remember his conversation with Mr Willetts had centred on the issue of the libel writ issued by Mr Hamilton against *The Guardian*. "My recollection is really of a conversation that would have covered that aspect," he said.

"As far as Mr Willetts is concerned with his obviously inquiring mind, which is highly respected by members

of this House, none more so than myself. I think it is only natural that that issue should occur. My recollection would be that, as with others, I did raise in general terms the issue of the writ, that there was this novel feature which I thought — and I was quite open about that — posed a problem."

Sir Geoffrey denied using the words "exploit a good Tory majority". He told the committee: "I think you will have to ask Mr Willetts as to how he wrote up that conversation, but I am quite convinced in my own mind that words like 'exploiting a good Tory majority' are not in my vocabulary."

Ann Taylor, the Shadow Leader of the House, asked Sir Geoffrey who had initiated the conversation.

"I can't recall how it happened. We do wander around these corridors and these conversations do arise. Its unlikely that I would walk up to someone but out of natural curiosity Mr Willetts might have approached me."

"I can't think why he thought I wanted his advice. I was quite clear in my mind with my experience where my duty lay."

Sir Geoffrey made it clear that no one from the Whips' Office had continued the conversation later. "Nobody contacted me whatsoever. I see the



Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith giving evidence to the privileges committee yesterday

Chief Whip two times a week as vice-chairman of the 1922 Committee and he never uttered one word about it."

He repeatedly emphasised that the note was partly inaccurate but told Jill Knight, Tory MP for Edegbaston: "This was a shorthand note and I am not here to rubbish a shorthand note, because a shorthand note is very often followed up by some verbal explanation."

John Evans, Labour MP for St Helens North, said any "fair-minded rational person" who read Mr Willetts's memorandum would conclude that Sir Geoffrey had sought advice from a "high level within

the Government" on how his committee should handle the "potentially devastating" allegations against Mr Hamilton. "Isn't it astonishing that Mr Willetts could have put such a reading onto the conversation and discussions that you had when you seemingly cannot recall how he could possibly arrive at that conclusion?"

Sir Geoffrey replied: "Yes, I think it is astonishing and I think you are quite right and I think you better ask Mr Willetts, if I may suggest that."

He told Nigel Jones, Liberal Democrat MP for Cheltenham, that he had never felt under any pressure from Number 10 and had had no

contact with anyone there. Questioned by Quentin Davies, Tory MP for Stanford and Spalding, Sir Geoffrey said he did not know whether Mr Willetts was a whip or not. Pressed further, Sir Geoffrey insisted: "I do not recall having a conversation knowing that I was addressing a member as a whip."

He said that if it was interfering to pass information onto the whips he would have spoken to the Chief Whip, Allister Goodlad, whom he saw once a week anyway. "I would not have used a junior whip as a conduit," he said.

Sir Geoffrey said that he had not discussed the whole affair with Mr Willetts in recent weeks. He and Mr Willetts had merely greeted each other when passing in Westminster. He also admitted that he did not know Mr Willetts had written a memorandum of their conversation until it was published in the newspapers.

## IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: social security questions; Prime Minister's Questions; Foreign Secretary's speech on the Bosnian crisis; Home Secretary's speech on the transfer of Channel Islands (Scotland); second reading: debate on moral education in schools.

# Major has strong case, but will the voters care?

THE Government yesterday deployed its maximum firepower on the economy — Michael Heseltine, in his role as chief executive of Great Britain plc reviewing the balance sheet; Malcolm Rifkind and Ian Lang launching the White Paper, *Free Trade and Foreign Policy: A Global Vision*; and, finally, John Major as head booster of the British success story. There was an orgy of good news and optimism. Did it bear the strains of Elgar and *Land of Hope and Glory* in the background? But I doubt whether all this "Britain is back in business" stuff will be electorally decisive.

The Tories have a strong case. There have, after all, been several big policy mistakes over the years. Taxes have risen since 1992, many people have lost their jobs and businesses have gone bust. But the recent performance has been better. It is not just the fall in unemployment, relatively low inflation and rising living standards.

As important are the series of arguments about competitiveness and deregulation summed up in the slogan "the enterprise centre of Europe".

The Government's new White Paper is a worthy — though, as the Prime Minister's office has admitted in a leak, hardly novel — discussion of the foreign policy and free trade implications. One yardstick of success is the high level of foreign investment in Britain. The Tories' problem is making voters care. These arguments may be strong in the abstract: people may accept the broad themes underlying the case for free trade and less red tape. But they do not necessarily regard their long-term prospects and prosperity as being at stake and threatened if Labour wins. Tony Blair is not a reinforcement of Tony Benn circa 1974 and is not seen as such by industry.

The Tories are trying to wind up the issue of the social chapter — linked to this morning's decision on the working-time directive — to warn of the linked Labour and European

threat to Britain's competitive position. Both main parties exaggerate the significance of the social chapter. Not only have many British multinationals accepted its provisions but there is also a growing acceptance in the rest of Europe of the dangers of adding to social costs.

Nonetheless, Labour's position is flawed. Mr Blair and Gordon Brown talk as if Britain can take and leave what it implements, and would not agree to any measures that might burden business. But if Britain ended its opt-out from the social chapter, it would have limited room for manoeuvre. Labour is right that certain items, such as social security, collective bargaining and worker-directors, are subject to unanimity. But many other areas are decided by qualified majority voting. Moreover, Labour has talked of extending QMV in social, environmental, industrial and regional policy, and Labour MEPs have made proposals about works councils affecting companies with more than 50 employees.

Nevertheless, I still do not see the social chapter as being at the forefront of voters' minds next spring. The economy generally, and rising living standards, should help the Tories to narrow the gap with Labour. The regular MORI questions for *The Times* on which party is best on certain issues show that the Tories have been improving their position on managing the economy and have edged back in front of Labour for the first time since 1992. However, the Tories had previously enjoyed a big lead on economic management. They are right to focus on this issue, but are being over-optimistic in hoping that it will be enough to offset the other factors working against them and save the next general election.

PETER RIDDELL



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# Woman reporter will fight safe Tory seat

WOMEN Tories have always struggled to beat their male counterparts in the battle to become parliamentary candidates, but Julie Kirkbride has succeeded with apparent ease (Alice Thomson writes).

Miss Kirkbride (right), a 36-year-old journalist, was chosen from 300 hopefuls to stand for the safe seat of Bromsgrove in Worcestershire. She will defend a 13,700 Tory majority. Yesterday the selection com-

mittee said that her speeches were exceptional and that members had been impressed by her grasp of subjects ranging from the CSA to BSE, cake-making and football. She put her success down to her five years in Westminster as a political correspondent for *The Daily Telegraph*.

"I didn't think I stood a chance," she said. "I only went to the first interview to get some experience. Then I got to



the second round and suddenly it was the finals."

Labour's use of women-only shortlists could give the party almost 100 women MPs at the election. The Tories are unlikely to have more than 20.

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Concern at court rulings

# Mackay calls for better quality of Euro judges

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor is to press for tighter controls over the European Court of Human Rights because of growing concern at the quality of judges from some European countries.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern will put the Government's case in person later this month for some kind of informal vetting of judges put up for the European Court, to be coupled with the standard selection criteria. There is concern in government circles that, with 40 countries now members of the Council of Europe and more expected, the quality and experience of some new judges cannot be guaranteed.

British officials believe that too many of the human rights judges, as academics or human rights specialists, have no practical experience. At the same time the Government is concerned about a string of recent adverse rulings by the court and wants reforms to ensure that the judges pay more heed to British circumstances and traditions.

Lord Mackay's visit to the presidents of the European Court and of the European Commission of Human Rights comes after rulings by the court have put Britain almost at the top of the league for breaches of the European Convention on Human Rights. Britain has the third highest number of cases against it, after Italy and Turkey. In the past 30 years there have been 80 cases brought against Britain and breaches found in 37.

The Lord Chancellor will press for reforms in two key areas: first, over the way the European judges are selected; and second, over the criteria

used by the court when reaching its decisions. Lord Mackay said: "My main aim is to try to ensure that the arrangements give us the best judges for this type of work as we can get, within the framework of the different member states that have a part to play in nominating people for the court."

It was a question, he added, of trying to ensure that the people appointed were judges with a background in the work and were "sufficiently experienced in this area to be acceptable as judges in a court of considerable importance".

The Government is seeking some control over the nominations for the European Court put forward by member states. At present, these are almost always automatically endorsed by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe without question. The Government wants preliminary discussions between countries — a kind of vetting procedure — so that the names which finally emerge have wide backing. That could be coupled with proposals from the assembly to conduct interviews of potential candidates.

The second reform is over how the court reaches its decisions. Many critics feel it has gone beyond its remit by dealing with specific matters that should be left to member states. The Government wants to persuade the judges to adopt a more tolerant approach that takes account of the decisions of local democratic institutions and tribunals which, it says, "are best placed to assess issues this kind".

A Foreign Office document outlining the Government's position on both reforms says: "There is widespread agreement that the common standards of the convention have to be maintained. But equally it is widely recognised that differing circumstances and traditions in the way these standards are implemented in different countries have to be respected."

The future of the European Court of Human Rights has been thrown into focus because Britain has signed a protocol which will merge the court and commission, probably by 1998. The question of incorporation of the European Convention of Human Rights is backed by Labour as well as by senior judges.



Lord Mackay: he will urge vetting of judges



Avis Mulhearn, parish council chairman, outside the boycotted church: "Right is on our side," she said

## Villagers boycott church over plan to build on green

By BILL FROST

VILLAGERS are boycotting parish services in protest over church plans to let property developers build on the green overlooking their community.

Planning permission has been granted for two large detached houses high on a hill at Sunningwell, near Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The Church of England, which owns the land, says that the money raised will be used to pay ministers' wages.

More than 30 worshippers are staying away from the 750-year-old church of Sunningwell St Leonard. Avis Mulhearn, chairman of the parish council, said yesterday: "This is a beautiful place. Two new houses on the hill, dominating everything, would be a terrible eyesore. By ignoring our views, the Church is saying 'Sod you lot'."

The green is used for games, fishing in the stream, walking dogs and blackberry picking. It is planning permission for two houses at the moment, but that's just the thin end of the wedge. This village was first mentioned in the Domesday Book. It

shouldn't be blighted like this. The Church establishment may think they have won, but we have a few shots left. Our barrister is examining ways of seeking a judicial review. Right is on our side."

Terry Landsbert, secretary of the Oxford diocesan finance board, said that the boycott had been mounted by a vocal but unrepresentative group: "The project involves the construction of just two houses. We are like any other landowner and we have to do the best we can for the Church."

"Those behind this sad boycott do not seem to understand or care that we have a duty to invest money from the sale to pay stipends. It's a very sad piece of nimbysism."

The Rev Tom Gibbons, rector of the parish, said he felt trapped between warring factions and that his ministry had become a matter of attempting to rebuild goodwill in the community towards his employers. "At the moment, the church is the enemy of the village and it's very upsetting."

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An old man in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, sells pomegranates to make ends meet. The state pension of £14 a month will not buy a daily loaf of bread.

## Bulgarians face bitter winter after harvest of failed reforms

**Sofia's new rich enjoy a life of big cars and weekends in Vienna. For the rest, as the snows approach, it may be a case of starving or freezing, Roger Boyes reports**

After supping at some fashionable restaurant, Bulgaria's new rich steer their Mercedes into the southern foothills of the Vitosha Mountain and switch off their mobile telephones. From their big white, double-garaged homes, they can see before them the whole of Sofia, darkly attractive, its misery camouflaged by a few flickering neon advertisements.

For these people with their weekends in Vienna, life must seem good in Bulgaria's limbo world where neither capitalism nor communism holds sway. But for Nadezhda, a doctor in the bruised northern part of town, where prematurely ageing suburbs give way to scrubland, the businessmen with their borrowed Western habits may as well be on the far side of the moon. The talk in real Sofia is of the rapid approach of the worst winter since 1920. Bulgaria, once the corn basket of Eastern Europe, is preparing for a season of bitter cold and hunger. If it happens, and the first snows are barely three weeks away, Europe will have a new emergency on its hands.

for the Bulgarian Government is manifestly unable to cope. How could this happen to a country which has made its mark in the West with Cabernet Sauvignon, sheep's cheese and strawberry jam?

Ten years ago, Nadezhda treated me for a stomach infection. Then she had a decent wage, a small car and some kind of social standing. Now she is desperate. In her pantry she shows me 50 bottled jars of preserves: plums, mushrooms, apples. As inflation rattled out of control over the summer she, like millions of other Bulgarians, harvested her small allotment, foraged in forests and established a store more appropriate to the civil defence lesson she once sat through in school: how to survive a nuclear attack. Her neighbours have stockpiled pota-



Stoyanov: stark choices

atoes, brought into town by farmers. Anyone with capital has bought a deep freeze to house a month or more of meat supplies, but since power cuts are on the way, it seems a doubtful investment.

All the Mayor of Sofia,

Stefan Sofiyansky, can come up with is a network of soup kitchens, 30 of them to be sponsored by the authorities and complemented, he hopes, by private charity. The British Embassy and other expatriates plan to run a voluntary kitchen. The main beneficiaries are supposed to be pensioners living alone, outside the extended family. Their average pension is 5,000 leva, about £14 a month.

A few months ago a Bulgarian pensioner could have bought a loaf of bread a day on his allowance, nothing else. Now with inflation increasing at the rate of 20 per cent a month, even that daily loaf is no longer secure. Factory workers rush on pay day to the many currency exchange offices in Sofia and swap their hard earnings for marks or dollars: the only way of keeping the value of their wage.

Nadezhda makes a straightforward calculation. It carries authority since she is in charge of the household account. "Our heating bill is 7,000 leva, the electricity is 700, cold water is 550 and warm water around 1,200, the telephone comes to around 2,300 — and that's my salary." Her after-hours private consultations pay part of the food bill and her husband's wage, as an electrician covers the cost of the car needed for her hospital job. That is the domestic arithmetic of a childless double-income couple, infinitely better off than most of the population, yet struggling to make ends meet. Two thirds of all Bulgarian households now live below the survival minimum of around 10,000 leva (£28) a month per household member.

After two years of socialist rule — which has slowed down and diverted reform — local inhabitants are beginning to realise that Bulgaria has become the sick man of Europe. There is no social safety net to catch those who fall off the wire.

In theory Bulgarians who cannot afford to pay for power can apply for exemption from the electricity board. The board in turn is supposed to get back the money from the Treasury. In practice, however, no pensioner can understand the compensation forms; the bureaucrats are deliberately intimidating and the electricity board does not trust the Government to make good the shortfall. And so, as Peter Stoyanov, the newly elected President, puts it: "There is only one real choice facing Bulgarians — whether to switch off the heating or to go without food." There are no household electric or gas meters in Bulgaria, so personal consumption cannot be measured; it is thus up to the city council whether and when to turn off the heating in the housing estates.

Six years ago, when communist rule crumbled throughout Eastern Europe, each country was confronted with a choice: to implement tough market reforms or make more gradual changes. Bulgaria could never quite make up its mind and so it ended up with a small self-enriching class, many of them former communists or secret policemen, who have semi-paternalised state concerns

and put themselves in charge. Funds have been pouring out of the country into Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

One difference between Bulgaria and the rest of the region is that the new rich have not become a lobby for reform: they are hostile to the opening-up of the economy, jealous of foreign competition and protective of their privileges. The socialist Government, with close personal and financial contacts to these magnates, has been propping up rotten factories with apparently bottomless subsidies.

Hence the policing mission of the International Monetary Fund team. Before it pays out a further tranche of \$15 million (£70 million), which may help to pay for grain imports and keep the bakers working, it wants the Government to close down 64 factories. The Government seems ready to agree to this — almost anything — even though it will swell even further the ranks of the unemployed. More than 700,000 Bulgarians, close to 16 per cent of the workforce, are without a job. The trade unions are

planning to stage a general strike a week tomorrow.

Bulgaria has muddled through previous crises. This year is different: the relationship between the city and the countryside, which has saved the country in the past, has started to break down. Barely 10 per cent of the usual winter wheat and barley sowing was complete by the end of October; sunny weather has helped but there is clearly not enough. The farmers have been unable to obtain bank credit for seed (or for fodder). That is partly because the banks are in a mess — 14 have just been closed — and partly because farmers cannot offer adequate security.

And so a country buckles. In Sofia's cafes and bistros, the young people are cheerful about the decline. The hope is that when the final pig is slaughtered and when the Government admits defeat, "Europe" will come to the rescue. A friend from the opposition Union of Democratic Forces recalls a Greek fable of three frogs caught in a churn of milk. The first frog regards it as pointless to struggle and quickly drowns. The second is sure everything will be all right, and he also drowns. The third paddles with all his strength until the milk below him turns to butter and keeps him afloat. "That's it, don't you see?" booms the former dissident. "Two frogs have died — now we've got to paddle for our lives."

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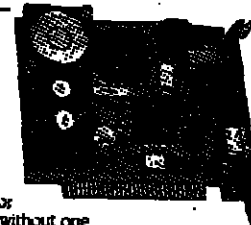
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# Kohl forces coalition to back budget cuts for euro

By Roger Boyes

THE coalition Government of Helmut Kohl, strained almost to breaking point, yesterday finally agreed to DM3 billion (£1.2 billion) of additional public spending cuts aimed at keeping Germany on course for European monetary union. The negotiations struggled to a close at midnight on Sunday and the Chancellor's relief was obvious yesterday. He had threatened to resign and plunge the country into a political crisis unless his coalition partners buckled down.

Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, clearly exhausted, hinted that he would be happy to hand the Treasury to the querulous liberal Free Democrats in the next Cabinet reshuffle. Volker Rühe, the Defence Minister, signalled that deep cuts in his budget would shoot down the multinational Eurofighter project as well as a spy satellite planned with the French.

In the event, the Chancellor stayed in power, the Finance Minister grudgingly returned to his desk and the Eurofighter seems to be secure. But it was a close-run thing and as even government politicians admitted last night the deal could still unravel.

Moreover, even if these and further savings keep Germany's deficit within the 3 per cent of gross domestic product needed to qualify for joining the single currency, the euro, there is big trouble ahead for the Government. The Free Democrats, the junior partner in the coalition, have linked

their support for Herr Kohl with a government commitment to freezing taxes next year and actively cutting them in 1998. Yet, to meet the monetary union target for next year, many spending projects have been put on ice. They will have to be paid for, almost certainly by raising taxes.

The Free Democrats then have to decide what is best for their survival chances: to stick with Herr Kohl and risk their image as the tax-cutting party, or to stay true to their programme, abandon the Chancellor and risk a stint in opposition. The Government, in short, could still collapse over Maastricht.

The savings will come partly from lower subsidies to farmers and reductions in coal mining subsidies. Pit workers were protesting yesterday, banging drums outside the Free Democrats' headquarters in Bonn.

The Defence Minister will have to shed about £80 million. Herr Waigel emphasised that these cuts would not affect the Eurofighter, which is to be built in co-operation with Britain, Italy and Spain. His assurance was partly motivated by self-interest since many of the aerospace jobs guaranteed by the project are based in his home state of Bavaria.

The largest cuts, of about £400 million, will be from the Labour Ministry. This in turn has prompted speculation that Norbert Blum, the Labour Minister, is at the end of his tether.



Rookwood, the £2.5 million house at Brook, Surrey, allegedly bought with its 350-acre estate by Asif Ali Zardari, Miss Bhutto's husband

## Bhutto property deals under scrutiny

By Zahid Hussain in Islamabad and Lin Jenkins

OPponents of Benazir Bhutto, the deposed Pakistani Prime Minister, have identified a string of properties in Britain and France on which criticism of alleged financial impropriety of Asif Ali Zardari, her husband, has focused.

One is a £2.5 million 350-acre estate boasting a main manor house, which is said to be one of the most secluded large houses in the Home Counties. It was sold three years ago amid great secrecy, with the estate agents kept unaware of the buyer as they concluded the sale through a London solicitor.

Miss Bhutto has a house in the South of France and her husband has two properties in Belgravia, London, and an estate in Normandy, bought in the name of his parents. All are being investigated by the interim administration in Islamabad. Rookwood at Brook, Surrey, nestles in a 26-acre park, has a private landing strip, two staff cottages

and a separate gymnasium with tennis court and indoor swimming pool. When it was sold it had a master suite, a guest suite and seven other bedrooms. However, villagers say the Edwardian manor house has been much altered.

A fence 7ft high keeps onlookers on a public footpath at bay, security cameras are mounted and villagers said Pakistani security guards were patrolling the grounds.

This year, Miss Bhutto denied she was behind the purchase of the estate. However, documents obtained by her opponents in Pakistan show that Mr Zardari bought the house through an Isle of Man company.

He remains detained without charge while investigations are carried out into allegations that he amassed a fortune through corrupt dealings. As the son of a modest

Karachi cinema owner, he had no inherited money and the source of the hard currency he used to finance property deals is raising questions.

Miss Bhutto, 43, said yesterday that she had no plans to leave Islamabad after moving out of the Prime Minister's residence in the wake of her removal by President Leghari. She said that she would not return to her home in Karachi because her three

children were at school in the capital. She found herself the centre of criticism when she appointed her husband Minister for Investments in August. Opponents began investigating his financial dealings and there was an outcry in September when he was discovered to be paying for two luxury flats in London. The two flats, in Wilton Crescent, Belgravia, where flats are selling for about £500,000, were funded from the Channel Islands. His parents lived in one, but recently were planning to move.

The payments for the flats, owned by an offshore Jersey company, were made from a bank in Karachi to a mortgage account in Guernsey.

Plane plan scrapped: Pakistan's caretaker Government scrapped Miss Bhutto's plan to buy an aircraft for government leaders. Irshad Ahmed Haqqani, the Information Minister, said yesterday. A Cabinet meeting also decided to revert to a six-day working week "to increase government output". (AFP)



The flats in Wilton Crescent, Belgravia, owned by the husband of Miss Bhutto



Letters, page 19

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Full frontal 'Lady C' for Japan

Tokyo: Japan, a nation where pornography is freely available, will soon have a chance to read an uncensored version of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. The Japanese publishing house Shinchosha said that a full translation of D.H. Lawrence's classic, including passages still officially banned, would be available on November 30. In 1950, the Japanese Supreme Court found a complete Japanese translation of the British author's book obscene and ordered about 80 pages of love scenes to be deleted. (Reuters)

#### Opium exports

Seoul: Impoverished North Korea is running a nationwide network of secret poppy farms to produce and export opium to earn hard currency. Hur Chang Gil, 47, a defector, has said. (AP)

#### 23 die in bus

Tbilisi: At least 23 people were killed and many injured when a bus plunged over a 180ft precipice on a mountain road in Georgia on Sunday and crashed into a river, the Interior Ministry said. (Reuters)

#### Killer honoured

Phnom Penh: Khmer Rouge guerrillas awarded "hero" status to Nuon Paet, a commander believed responsible for the murder of three Western hostages, including Mark Slater, a Briton, two years ago. (AFP)

#### Fruitbat virus

Sydney: Rabies vaccine has been flown to Australia to combat a potentially fatal virus in fruitbats. The rabies-related lyssavirus has infected a woman, 39, who is "serious" in a Brisbane hospital.

## Yeltsin to address nation in days after good recovery

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN has recovered so rapidly from the quintuple heart bypass surgery he underwent last Tuesday that he will soon be able to address the nation.

According to the Kremlin, he is expected within days to make either a radio or television broadcast in which he will set out his plans for returning to office and resuming his duties in full. Although Russians have repeatedly been assured that their leader will regain his full health within weeks, many people will be satisfied only when they see and hear him for themselves.

Yesterday Sergei Mironov, the Kremlin's chief doctor, said that Mr Yeltsin would

continue recuperating at the Central Clinical Hospital for another ten days before moving to the Barvikha Sanatorium for a month's convalescence.

Earlier Mr Yeltsin issued a written statement condemning the murder on Sunday of 13 mourners in a Moscow cemetery. The gangland incident was the bloodiest of its kind in Russian history and highlighted the need for Mr Yeltsin to resume office to tackle organised crime.

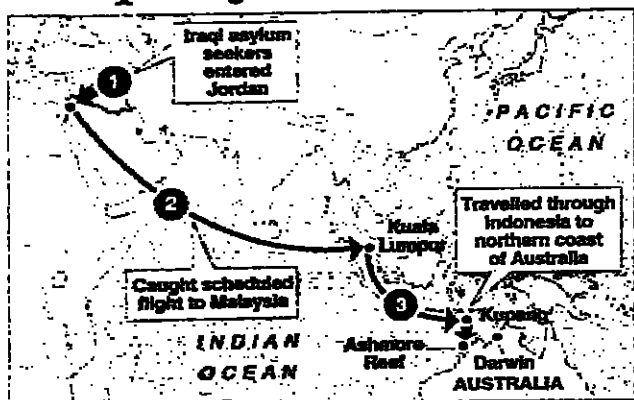
"I learnt with grief about the terrorist act at the Kotlyakovskoye Cemetery in Moscow," he said. "I express my condolences to the relatives and close friends of those who were killed. I have ordered the

legal authorities to carry out a thorough investigation of all details of this bloody crime."

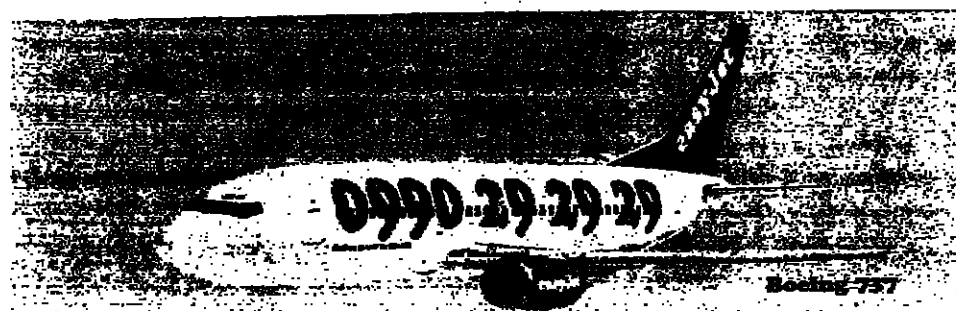
Vytautas Landsbergis, the Lithuanian independence leader, made a spectacular political comeback yesterday when his party emerged as the clear winner of a second round of parliamentary elections.

Mr Landsbergis sealed his return to power four years after being rejected by voters in favour of his old foe, the former Communist of the Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party. He is expected to become Speaker of the new parliament, which some commentators say will allow him to prepare for a fight for the presidency in 1998. (Reuters)

## Iraqi asylum-seekers on coral isle



Sydney: Thirty-six Iraqis, mainly professional men, are seeking asylum in Australia after being found on a coral island north of Darwin (Roger Maynard writes). Their journey began with a night-time drive across desert into Jordan before catching a scheduled flight to Malaysia. From Kuala Lumpur, they reached Indonesia and went on to the East Timorese port of Kupang, where they met smugglers known as "snakeheads" who ferried them to Ashmore Reef.



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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12 1996

## Bae wins £1bn Australian Hawk trainers contract

By OLIVER AUGUST

BRITISH AEROSPACE, the defence manufacturer, has won a £1 billion contract to supply the Australian air force with Hawk training aircraft.

Selection of the Hawk over Italian and American competitors was clinched on the basis of Bae building new production facilities in Australia.

Only the first 12 Hawks out of an order of 40 will be manufactured at Bae workshops in Britain, boosting job security for thousands of highly-

skilled technicians in Wharton, Lancashire, and Brough, East Riding. A spokesman for Bae, said, even though the licensed production abroad created no new jobs in Britain, the order had strengthened the defence manufacturing community in the North West.

He said: "We are growing very strongly in Australia at the sharp end of our business. In fact, we have 43 years of history in Australia. The first 12 planes are being built in the UK because the Australians want them quickly."

Ian McLachlan, the Australian

Defence Minister, said: "British Aerospace's bid was selected after detailed evaluation across a wide range of areas, including aircraft design and performance, costs and Australian industry involvement proposals."

During the bidding process, Bae committed itself to limiting the British production run to 12 aircraft. After their delivery, production will be shifted to Williamstown air force base in Newcastle, Australia, where the fleet will be maintained.

The Hawks, a variant of the standard Hawk 100 model, will replace

elderly Italian aircraft for introductory training of combat jet pilots. Hawks are fitted with Rolls-Royce engines, which will be assembled and maintained by Qantas Airways in Australia. Production of the Australian Hawk aircraft will begin in early 1997 with handover of the first aircraft by mid-1999.

Australia's selection of the Hawk takes the number of countries that have ordered the aircraft to 15. It is said to be the most successful training aircraft in the world with more than 700 built or on order.

Bae and the Australian Govern-

ment remained silent on the price for the 40 aircraft, but industry insiders said total costs would rise to £1 billion over the 25-year life of the project. This would involve a variety of costs such as setting up production in Australia.

The concept of producing Bae aircraft abroad under licensing agreements was pioneered with the building of Bae's Harrier aircraft by McDonnell Douglas in America.

In the tender for the Australian training jet, however, McDonnell Douglas was competing with Bae, offering a US Navy version of the

Hawk. But its offer was eliminated in September.

Bae's only other competitor was Italy's Aeracchi, which had offered its MB.339FD trainer. Bae's selection is subject to the negotiation of the final contract.

The Australian defence department has previously said that up to 40 aircraft would be needed, but it will leave it to the successful tenderer to decide how many aircraft would be required to fulfil the training schedules.

Bae's shares yesterday closed unchanged at £11.49.

## BUSINESS TODAY

### STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	2814.4	(+3.6)
Yield	4.07%	
FTSE All share	1930.89	(+1.38)
Nikkei	21065.08	(+135.96)
New York		
Dow Jones	8242.56	(+22.74)
S&P Composite	731.45	(+0.63)

### US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	99 1/8%	(99 1/8%)
Yield	6.51%	(6.51%)

### LONDON MONEY

3-month Interbank	6 1/8%	(6 1/8%)
Life long gilt		
future (Dec)	109 1/2	(108 1/2)

### STERLING

New York	1.6465	(1.6483)
London		
\$	1.6465	(1.6447)
DM	2.4677	(2.4768)
FF	8.3502	(8.3773)
Sfr	2.0751	(2.0869)
Yen	183.13	(183.47)
£ index	90.5	(90.8)

### DOLLAR

London		
DM	1.4980	(1.5048)
FF	5.0502	(5.0888)
Sfr	1.2500	(1.2649)
Yen	111.09	(111.73)
£ index	90.0	(90.2)
Tokyo close Yen 111.57		

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	\$22.80	(\$22.60)
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### GOLD

London close	\$380.75	(\$379.95)
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\* denotes midday trading price

## Labour toughens inflation stance

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LABOUR yesterday toughened up its anti-inflation policy, insisting that in government it would be able to meet a 2.5 per cent inflation target in the medium term, unlike the Conservatives.

While Labour set no lower target than the current Government's, Labour leaders insisted their declaration meant that a future Labour Government would be "tougher on inflation than the Tories".

Labour signalled its latest policy statement on inflation in a speech by Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, to business leaders. Insisting that in government, Labour would have "a target for low and stable inflation," Mr Brown said: "We will not be satisfied with simply talking as tough as the Tories. For unlike the Government, we plan to deliver on our inflation target. We will want our inflation performance to match that of our competitors in Europe."

In a speech to the Confeder-

ation of British Industry's annual conference in Harrogate, Mr Brown said that inflation undermined business success, created instability, harmed investment, and took years to rectify. Labour pointed out that underlying inflation is currently 2.9 per cent, and that over the past four years, the 2.5 per cent target figure had only been hit in eight months.

Mr Brown insisted that with greater stability and more consistent and credible monetary policy institutions, "never again should interest rate decisions affecting the long term appear to be manipulated for short-term party political ends."

Today's CBI conference will debate economic and monetary union and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, is among the key speakers at the conference. Britain's business leaders were urged by trade unions to

join them in a common approach to the Government after the general election. Ignoring contentious areas of difference, the unions set out an agenda for a "new form of partnership" between business and the unions which rejected both industrial conflict and previous, over-fermal, ways of employers and employees working together.

Business leaders immediately welcomed the call from John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, to set out areas of agreement, though they held back from agreeing to a post-election common approach to the Government.

However, the CBI and the TUC yesterday launched a new joint set of performance measures aimed at improving employee relations in Britain. In the first-ever speech by a TUC General Secretary to a CBI annual conference, Mr Monks said there were issues such as a minimum wage, union representation and the EU social chapter on which business and the unions were not in agreement. But he said: "What I would ask is: can we not find more common ground? Would not a common approach from the CBI and the TUC produce a positive response from whoever forms the next Government?"

He laid out seven specific areas which could form the core of such a common approach. A commitment to sound and balanced macro-economic policy, including low inflation and low unemployment; a recognition of the challenge of competitiveness; an acknowledgement of Britain's place as an integral part of the EU; a priority to education and training; a rejection of moves to scrap the Training and Enterprise Councils; the need for a well-developed infrastructure; and an acceptance of the importance of technology.

Adair Turner, CBI Director General, said: "We broadly agree with the seven key policy issues raised by Mr Monks" and accepted it was a good idea to emphasise points of agreement rather than difference.



Francis Baron promoting holidays, helped by models Paula Hamilton, left, and Kathy Lloyd

## Deposed chief of First Choice qualifies for £640,000 payoff

By PAUL DURMAN

FIRST CHOICE Holidays will pay £640,000 in compensation to Francis Baron, the chief executive deposed in a boardroom coup at the weekend. According to company sources, Mr Baron's contract includes a "liquidated damages" clause entitling him to two years' salary.

Mr Baron, 50, joined First Choice three years ago when it was still Owners Abroad. Since then, the company's shares have underperformed the FT All-Share index by nearly 45 per cent.

Mr Baron's departure may clear the way for First Choice to cut its dividend payment. It is understood that Mr Baron strongly opposed a cut because of the assurances the company gave to shareholders at the time of last year's £44 million rights issue. The company's newer directors — including Peter Long, promoted yesterday to chief executive — are said to feel less committed to maintaining the dividend.

In a statement to the Stock Exchange, First Choice said that Mr Baron was asked to leave after a breakdown in his working relationship with executive colleagues. Mr Baron's fellow directors became unhappy at his autocratic management style, and his reluctance to involve them in decision-making.

It was suggested that pres-

sure for his removal was led by the directors who have joined the company in the last year — David Gill, finance director, Ken Smith, managing director of the Air 2000 charter airline, and Mr Long, who joined last month as managing director of the company's UK tour operating division. Mr Long was the founder of Sunworld Holidays, the tour operator sold to Thomas Cook, the travel agent, for £38 million in July.

Michael Julien, chairman of First Choice, thanked Mr Baron for his work on rebranding the business, a process that led the company to drop some of its weaker brands. Although First Choice has given about a tougher-than-expected summer, Mr Julien said that booking levels for next year looked encouraging. After the warning in July, some analysts forecast that First Choice would only make about £10 million in the year just ended. This would leave the dividend payment uncovered.

Mr Baron, who previously worked for WH Smith, said that he had helped First Choice to create "one of the best brand franchises in the UK travel industry", and he was leaving the company in the best of shape.

Pennington, page 29  
City Diary, page 31

## Duty free

BAA, the airports group, plans to double the size of its duty-free retailing business over the next five years. The group, which yesterday revealed a slowdown in passenger growth at Heathrow during October, has launched a new subsidiary called World Duty Free, aimed at taking a larger share of the \$21 billion worldwide market in tax-free sales to airline travellers.

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## Enmap plans

Enmap, the media group, has no plans to replace two rebel non-executive directors, Joe Cooke and Professor Ken Simmonds. Enmap is asking shareholders to vote them off the board at next month's extraordinary general meeting.

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## Cost of oil lifts output prices

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

A SURGE in the cost of oil helped to push factory gate prices higher in October — although underlying output prices remained relatively subdued, suggesting that there is little immediate threat of inflation feeding through to the shops.

Separate figures published yesterday by the British Retail Consortium (BRC) show that although high street sales remain strong, growth seems to be levelling off.

The two sets of figures are likely to cheer Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, who is under increasing pressure from the Bank of England and the City to make further interest rate increases. Eddie George, Governor of the Bank, yesterday said — before the release of the data — that a further rise would probably be needed if the Government is to reach its 2.5 per cent inflation target.

Output prices increased 0.2 per cent in October, according to data

supplied by the Office for National Statistics, taking the annual rate to 2.3 per cent, compared with 2.2 per cent in September.

However, the core measure of factory gate price inflation, which excludes food, beverages, tobacco and petroleum, remained flat, at 0.9 per cent — its lowest level for 30 years.

Economists said that the rise in oil

Anaïde Kaletsky ..... 31

prices, which have jumped 44 per cent over the past year, was the main cause of the rise in output prices. Input prices, which reflect the cost of raw materials for manufacturers, rose 0.5 per cent compared with September — although the annual rate fell 2 per cent.

Jonathan Loyne, UK economist with HSBC, said: "Much of the oil

increase is being absorbed by the producers themselves, and other cost pressures remain extremely subdued." Analysts added that the recent rise in sterling is also expected to keep prices under control.

The BRC monitor of high street sales showed an annual rise of 5.9 per cent in October, compared with 5.2 per cent in September. However, the BRC said that October's rise was in line with the three-month average from August to October of 6 per cent.

Andrew Sentance, chief economic adviser to the BRC, said: "The rate of increase is steady, rather than accelerating. There is little evidence in these numbers of the runaway consumer boom being conjured up by some commentators."

Clothes and furniture had especially strong sales in October. Footwear sales rose after a dip in September. However, the BRC said the market overall was still very competitive.

## Barclays employee sues for breach of contract

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A BARCLAYS executive is suing the bank for substantial damages for alleged breach of contract over a property bridging loan in a case that, if successful, could open the door to a further 39 similar claims from Barclays employees.

Robert French, an incentives and office manager at Barclays who was formerly an investment services manager, claims the bank broke its contract with him after he was instructed to move jobs from Oxford to East London in early 1989. Mr French, whose case before Judge Barnett in the High Court in London is backed by Unifi, the Barclays staff union, was given an interest-free bridging loan to help him to move house.

When the property market crashed, Mr French, who is represented by Stafford Young Jones, the law firm,

was unable to sell his Oxfordshire home. The union claims that Barclays threatened to charge interest on the loan unless Mr French agreed to sell the property to the bank's agent at its then market value. This was £40,000 less than the loan and valuation agreed with Barclays, according to Unifi. The union added that Mr French's mortgage on his new property in Billericay, Essex, together with the interest, would have been greater than his salary.

Mr French subsequently sold his Oxfordshire home to the bank's agent and, it was claimed, he was left with borrowings he could not sustain and Barclays now owned a share of his home.

Barclays Bank said it was contesting Mr French's allegations "vigorously". The case continues.

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## THE CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# Heseltine speech fails to spark business leaders

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE GOVERNMENT made a clear appeal for the support of British business yesterday when Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, proclaimed the mutual achievement of business and the Conservatives in creating "unequalled" economic prospects for Britain.

But despite the vigour of Mr Heseltine's case for the UK's revived economic performance, business leaders at the Confederation of British Industry's annual conference judged he had not succeeded in winning them over.

Mr Heseltine used his keynote speech to the CBI's conference in Harrogate to detail what he said was Britain's "phenomenal progress" during the Conservative period

of office to arrest the UK's relative economic decline.

He cited low inflation, low taxes, low interest rates, falling unemployment, 750,000 more people in work, one million new small firms, a slashed strike record, increased output, higher efficiency and high levels of inward investment by foreign companies. He told the conference: "When I stand back and survey the industrial and commercial Britain of today, I frankly marvel at the changes."

In a clear call for continuing business support as Labour leaders arrived at the CBI conference to press home their case for business backing for

new Labour, Mr Heseltine emphasised the mutual independence of business and the Conservatives.

He said: "We in Government could not have done it without you — but you could not have done it without us." He said the result of 17 years of determined endeavour is that we now have prospects unequalled in my lifetime."

Insisting that the Government "had the guts to make it happen", he coupled his claims for Britain's economic success with a strong attack on Labour's plans for a windfall tax on the privatised utilities.

He denied Labour's claims that utility companies had stockpiled £5 billion in cash to meet the cost of the windfall tax levied by a future Labour Government. He said: "I don't believe companies stack up cash on that scale as though they had no use for it. That cash — that tax — means lower investment, higher prices, or both." The tax, he said, was a proposed levy on all 8 million shareholders in gas, water and electricity.

Sir Colin Marshall, CBI president, welcomed Mr Heseltine's address as a clear illustration of Britain's economic successes. But most business leaders were sceptical. One trade association head said: "It was a speech looking for a theme," while another said: "It was just a long list of claims — like a bad Department of Trade and Industry press release."

Another said: "We see Heseltine at the Conservative conference or in Commons shouting out sparks. But when he comes here, he delivers a 'business' speech and that just disappoints everyone."

A leading private sector company said: "Benchmarking, business initiatives and listing the Government's achievements are all very well. But with Labour pushing hard on business now, Heseltine needs to do better than this."



Bill Gates, addressing CBI delegates on a giant video screen, described the Internet as the world's biggest marketplace

## Gates sings Internet's praises

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE STREAM of information into homes and businesses will soon be thought of as essential as basic utilities, Bill Gates, the head of Microsoft, told the CBI yesterday.

In a video interview, Mr Gates said that sophisticated banks of information "will almost be like we think of electricity or water today."

He told business leaders that the changes wrought by the information society mark the biggest changes for commerce "than anything we've seen in the last 30 or 40 years."

The head of the world's biggest computer software company said that the Internet, the global network of computers, represented the most radical change in marketing and sales opportunities.

He said that business had been used to limiting its markets geographically and defining its markets by limits, but the Internet is now able to redefine those boundaries. He said: "It is the world's biggest marketplace."

Mr Gates's call for business to be aware of the march of technology was echoed by

other global communications groups. Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of British Telecom, said the competitiveness of business hinged on effective management of the information technology.

Sir Peter said such rationale lay behind BT's proposed merger with MCI of the US. "We have to face up to the most significant and far-reaching transformation in human society since the industrial revolution," he said.

John Goulding, chairman and managing director of Hewlett Packard, told a depleted audience that competitiveness in business was "all a matter of getting to the future first."

He added: "Business survival depends on the ability to respond to market demands and trends, to receive and impart information, to price goods and services correctly to manage information."

John Monks, general secretary of the TUC, said that training should be a key part of a joint approach from the CBI and unions to cement good industrial relations.

with opportunities offered by technological advances. Brian Shenton, head of Careskills, said that some 16-year-olds were coming out of school "virtually unemployable".

Dominic Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes and chairman of the CBI's education and training affairs committee, said that industry was suffering because there was so little

training in the areas crucial to businesses. Mr Cadbury also bemoaned the fact that very few companies qualified for the investors in people standard, the government initiative to promote training.

John Monks, general secretary of the TUC, said that training should be a key part of a joint approach from the CBI and unions to cement good industrial relations.

Microchip soul, page 16

## ICI criticised for changing its aims

By Christine Buckley

ICI was criticised for replacing long-term aims by short-term targets in CBI conference attacks on short-sighted corporate governance.

John Kay, chairman of London Economics, said that ICI had shifted its objectives radically from 1988, when its annual report had declared that its aim was to be "the world's leading chemical company, serving customers internationally through the innovative and responsible application of chemistry and related sciences". The declaration added: "Through achievement of our aim, we will enhance the wealth and well-being of our shareholders, our employees, our customers and the communities which we serve in."

Professor Kay said that, after Hanson's hostile move on ICI, the declaration

changed to: "Our objective is to maximise value for our shareholders by focusing on businesses where we have market leadership, a technological edge and a world competitive cost base."

Such devotion to market triggers could undermine the market system rather than underpin it, he said.

Sir David Barnes, Zeneca chief executive, told the conference that some companies were over-zealous in dividend policy, and that some "may feel they have to pay a dividend that is overly high". He also said there was a need for flexibility to recognise that businesses varied in size and maturity.

Alastair Ross Goobey, head of Hermes Pensions Management, said short-term rewards could cloud firms' long-term decisions.

## Fidelity chief is replaced

By Robert Miller

THE head of Fidelity Brokerage, the UK retail stockbroker arm of the world's largest fund manager, has been replaced less than two weeks after a City watchdog made it cease recruiting new clients.

Fidelity Brokerage said that David Plucinsky, 47, is taking a special assignment and is succeeded by Kenneth Rathgeber, who becomes acting president while "operational difficulties" with a new computer system are overcome.

The Securities and Futures Authority, the watchdog for brokers, last month told Fidelity Brokerage to stop signing up clients until January, after the firm failed to resolve "operational difficulties" resulting from converting to a new computer system and increased volume of business.

Some clients have already been compensated for loss of interest after items were not credited to accounts on time.

## Lang sets out 2020 vision of global free trade market

By Oliver August

IAN LANG, President of the Board of Trade, yesterday held up the creation of global free trade as Britain's mission for the year 2020.

In a controversial new White Paper he states that the free flow of trade and investment, unhindered by quotas, tariffs or technical barriers, is vital for world economic growth and would strengthen Britain's trade and investment efforts. Mr Lang said: "This White Paper is a plan of action to achieve free trade that we hope all countries of the world will support."

The Government will press for the start of comprehensive multilateral negotiations to achieve global free trade, at next month's World Trade

Organisation meeting in Singapore. Mr Lang said: "We now see an opportunity for spreading the open markets message on a truly global scale. The Government has a target of global free trade by 2020 — our 2020 vision."

While the issue of free trade in itself is uncontroversial, Mr Lang was embarrassed by comments on the White Paper made by the Prime Minister. A leaked letter from John Major's private secretary to the Foreign Office said: "The Prime Minister noted there is not much of the paper which can be seen as identifiably new and that distilling from it a convincing action plan may not be easy."

Labour derided the White

Paper as a waste of civil servants' time.

As a first step towards greater trade awareness, Mr Lang proposed new links between the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade and Industry, which already run the Government's export services. Now the Invest in Britain Bureau will be handled in the same way, with the export services of the two departments banded together.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, commented yesterday: "We derive huge benefits from foreign investment here, our investments overseas and our world-beating financial services industry. The world will be richer if others follow Britain's lead."



Bryan Bedson, chief executive, reported higher profits

## United News sells titles in Wales

UNITED News & Media, the newspaper, television and financial services group, has sold its regional newspapers in Wales to Southern Newspapers for £31.5 million. The division, whose titles include the *South Wales Argus*, reported operating profits last year of £1.1 million on turnover of £15.5 million.

United also said that it is in discussions to sell its titles in the South East. It will use the proceeds from the Welsh sale to reduce debt and help to fund acquisitions. Last month United launched an offer for Blenheim, the exhibitions company, and is thought to be in talks to buy Westcountry Television, the ITV company in Cornwall and Devon.

## Dell delivers jobs boost

DELL, the American computer group, has announced plans to double its workforce in the Republic of Ireland with some £50 million of investment in its Limerick plant. The company plans to recruit a further 750 people over the next three years to bring its Irish workforce up to 1,400. Later this week, the Industrial Development Board, the Republic's job creation agency, is expected to announce the establishment of a new plant in Dublin by another big electronics company. It is believed that the plant will create up to 300 jobs.

## DCC buys Merits stake

DCC, the industrial holding company based in the Republic of Ireland, has bought a 45 per cent stake in Merits Health Products Company, based in Taiwan, for a little more than \$4 million. Merits manufactures mobility and rehabilitation products such as wheelchairs. DCC said \$3.34 million of the price will be paid into the company in respect of new shares, with \$0.8 million going to existing shareholders. DCC, which reports interim results today, has also acquired Mitchell & Son, the Dublin wine merchants, for about £155,000.

## Celebrated Group up

THE Celebrated Group, the restaurant and diner operator that joined the Alternative Investment Market one year ago, enjoyed a rise in pre-tax profits to £570,000 from £211,000. The boost came from an extraordinary profit of £412,000 on the sale of a hotel management contract and of £82,000 on the sale of a restaurant. These were countered by a write-off of £78,000 of the cost of the hotel investment and reorganisation costs of £33,000. Earnings rose to 1.33p a share from 0.95p. There is a maiden interim dividend of 0.16p, due on January 8.

## Deutsche Telekom float swells

By Eric Reguly

DEUTSCHE TELEKOM is to boost the size of its initial public offering by 20 per cent because of strong demand for the shares from domestic and international investors.

The state-owned German phone company will now sell 600 million shares, up from 500 million, raising the total proceeds by about DM18 billion. The extra shares will make the Deutsche Telekom sale the largest equity offering in

European history. The previous record was held by British Petroleum, which sold shares worth £7.2 billion in 1987.

Deutsche Telekom's underwriters recommended an enlarged offer because the issue is more than four times oversubscribed. The high demand means that the shares are to be sold at the upper end of their indicated range of DM25 to DM30. The price will be set on Saturday and announced the next day, with share dealings to begin on Monday. Bankers said that UK investors will probably buy between 8 and 12 per cent of the issue. Private investors in the UK must hold a German bank account.

The French Government yesterday said that it expects to raise Fr25 billion (about \$4.9 billion) from next spring's privatisation of France Telecom, Banque Nationale de Paris and Banque Paribas have been appointed as the flotation's global co-ordinators.

## Wyndeham to seek new deals

WYNDEHAM Press Group, the fast-growing printing company, said it was seeking further acquisitions to develop its product range (Martin Barrow writes). The company this year paid £12.3 million for ET Heron, a web-offset printing company that specialises in long-run magazine and brochure production. Yesterday Wyndeham reported pre-tax profits of £3.5 million (£1.97 million) in the half year to September 30. An interim dividend of 19p a share (16p) will be paid from earnings of 79p (55p).

## Colonial Mutual set to convert

By Caroline Merrell

THE demutualisation of Colonial Mutual, the life insurer based in Australia, looks almost certain to go ahead after yesterday's meeting in London to vote on conversion proposals.

The life insurer has 570,000 members worldwide, with 270,000 based in the UK. Colonial Mutual proposes to float on the Australian stock exchange

with a market capitalisation of about £640 million. Shares worth between £285 and £14,000 will be allocated to policyholders.

The number of shares each member will receive will depend on the number of policies they have, the number of years they have been with the insurer and the amount they have invested. On average, each member will receive shares worth £1,200.

The meeting yesterday to vote on the proposals was attended by approximately 500 policyholders. They were told that Colonial Mutual was considering whether to opt for a UK stock market quote as well.

The company is introducing a clearing system in the UK which will allow policyholders to sell their shares more easily immediately after the conversion takes place.

## NatWest Business Accounts Interest Rates

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 12 November 1996:

Solicitors' Reserve Account		
Gross Interest per annum	Balance	Gross Compounded Annual Rate
4.000%	Instant Access—No minimum deposit/withdrawal	4.06%
3.875%	£250,000 and above	3.93%
3.500%	£100,000 – £249,999	3.55%
2.875%	£25,000 – £99,999	2.91%
2.000%	£2,000 – £24,999	2.02%
1.000%	£500 – £1,999	1.00%
	£0 – £499	

Where appropriate, tax will be deducted at source from interest credited or paid which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers. Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.

†† Gross Compounded Annual Rate is the true annual return on your deposits if the interest payments are retained in the account.

**NatWest**

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES		STOCK MARKETS	
Australia \$	2.19	Bank of America	28.14
Canada \$	1.46	Bank of Montreal	28.60
France F	6.54	Barclays Bank	28.60
Germany D	2.28	Deutsche Bank	28.60
Italy L	1.36	First National	28.60
Japan Y	163.00	HSBC	28.60
Netherlands G	2.20	London City	28.60
New Zealand \$	1.46	Midland	28.60
Portugal Esc	200.48	NatWest	28.60
Spain P	166.36	Paribas	28.60
Sweden Kr	11.51	SAIC	28.60
Switzerland Fr	2.22	Standard Bank	28.60
UK £	1.00	Union Bank	28.60
USA \$	1.70	Windsor	28.60











## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Naturally it was his first choice

FRANCIS BARON is looking forward to a few weeks abroad, after three years without a break as chief executive of First Choice Holidays. Curiously, he is planning to take his holiday with First Choice, in spite of his hasty departure from it yesterday. "They're the best company, with the best products," he says. But until then, he is up to his ears in the Elizabethan House he recently bought with his wife in Lewes, Sussex. After reading up on his new post, Baron is able to boast that it was once the home of a former Prince of Wales.



"Did we manage to sell him a holiday?"

ONLY six of the top ten partners at the leading law firms are Oxbridge graduates. Four went to Oxford, with full marks going to Exeter College, alma mater of both Colin Joseph of DJ Freeman and Andrew Walker of Lovell White Durrant. The average age is 52, and only four admit to spending spare time on the golf course a survey conducted by Legal Appointments magazine found.

### Wobbly-Don

ACCORDING to my spies, David Mansfield has put on two stone since he took off across the globe in search of the right partner in food for Capital Radio. The commercial director's expanding girth is the cause of much concern, after he ate his way around the world, before plunging for My Kinda Town. A fanatical Wimbledon FC supporter, rumour has it that the red-haired Mansfield will soon be too big to fit through the turnstile.

### High finance

DAVID "eager" Beaver, former managing director of SBC Warburg, who this week joins KPMG, is already raking in the riches. As the newly appointed chairman of corporate finance, Beaver was invited to attend a KPMG dinner in Birmingham, where he scooped the pool in a poker game. In one fell swoop, he turned a £25,000 stake into more than £1 million. Unfortunately for him, the stakes were theoretical, and all he took home was a measly magnum of champagne.

### Plastic economy

BIGGER breasts, smaller hips and bulging lips are among the best barometers of Britain's economic well-being. The more hips, tucks, lifts and implants, the better off we are. The British Association of Cosmetic Surgeons says that its business is finely tuned to the nation's wealth, and that demand for artificial enhancement is currently booming. With older businessmen wanting to look younger and redundant executives splashing out on a new nose in the hope that it might get them a new job, the number of men succumbing to the knife is on the rise.

CBI conferences are looking increasingly political. No Conservative MP is in sight, but lots of new Labour, here a Barbara Roche, here a Stephen Byers, here a Nigel Griffiths, here a Peter Mandelson.

MORAG PRESTON

# Business leaders prepare for judgment day in EU case

Executives prove more pragmatic than politicians, according to Philip Bassett

Ilford, the photographic chemicals company, has a new shift system. Nothing unusual in that, except that the company's new way of working is specifically designed to comply with Europe's 48-hour working week directive — even before it is in force. As the UK Government's ministers brace themselves for today's judgment on working time by the European Court of Justice, companies in Britain are starting to get on with it.

"We got whoops of derision from other employers when we said we do not think the directive is a problem," says David Pepper, Ilford's personnel manager. "But we were looking for a way to guarantee to employees that flexible working is not a way of cheating them."

Ilford used the prospect of the directive as a means of persuading staff to accept a new shift system — one that guarantees minimum daily and weekly rest periods and limits the working week to 48 hours, and at the same time improves the company's response to orders.

Ministers and business leaders will today insist that if the European Court demands that the working time directive is implemented in Britain, the competitiveness of British business will be sorely hit. Ilford disagrees: the company estimates that far from its costs rising with the working time provisions, it has cut its labour costs by £3 million since introducing the new shift system, which should be fully in place by Christmas, and will offer the ability to raise output by 20 per cent at a week's notice, without the need for overtime or temporary staff.

Though rooted in the directive, Ilford's pragmatic move is a world away from the focus today in Whitehall and Westminster, in Brussels and at the CBI conference in Harrogate, on a room in Luxembourg where 14 judges in the European Court will give their ruling in a key legal action: Britain's challenge to the European Union's directive on working time.

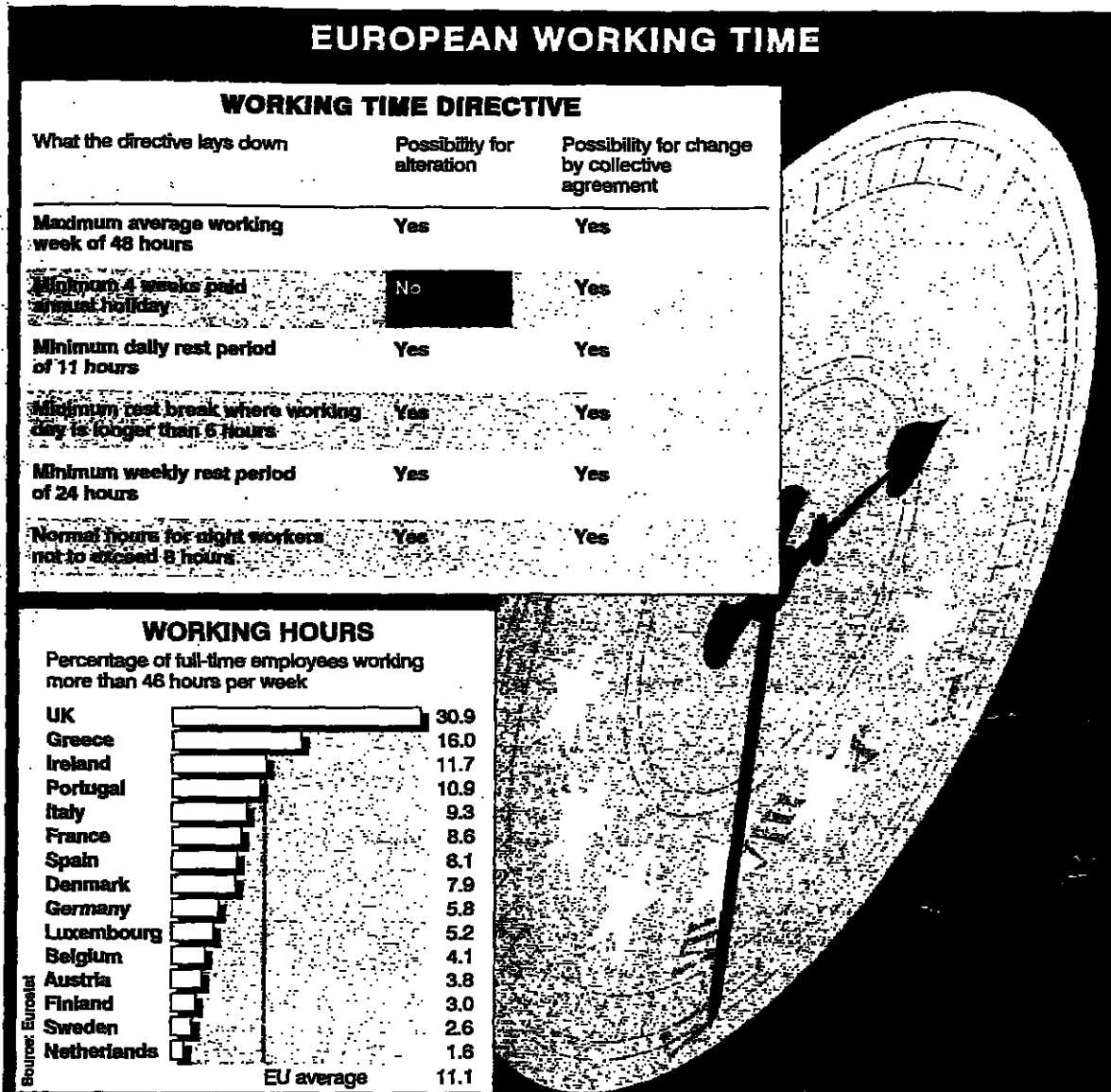
Barring unforeseen circumstances, all sides are united on one thing only — that the European Court will reject Britain's attempt to set aside the directive, and that the UK will be forced to introduce measures which will limit the working week in Britain to no more than 48 hours.

From the Prime Minister and the Labour leader onwards, politics will immediately subsume the decision. Behind the political sound and fury, though, the Government will have no legal choice but to accept the ruling and implement the directive, if that is indeed what the judges in Luxembourg say.

What is open for ministers to decide is how quickly they do that, with a general election looming ever closer, and what other action to take in reply — from nothing to using the crawling Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) negotiations and the EU presidential summit in Dublin next month to insist on new cross-EU rules exempting Britain from the directive, in spite of today's judgment.

Whitehall officials have been carefully preparing for today, readying a range of responses for ministers to adopt, after the announcement earlier this year of the opinion of the court's advocate-general, in which Britain's case was rejected. European Court judgments rarely run counter to these preliminary findings — hence the near-universal view that the UK Government's case will be rejected.

Behind the decision is a fundamental clash of philosophy, between the Government's commitment to deregulation, especially in the labour market, and the EU's insistence on common standards, including minimum job protection provisions, throughout Europe. But the core of today's argument is straightforward.



visions, throughout Europe. But the core of today's argument is straightforward.

The EU, with the support of trade unions, argues that working long hours are a threat to health and safety, and have brought forward a directive to limit working time in order to ease that threat. Britain, with the support of employers, insists this is a subterfuge — a misuse of the provisions of the Treaty of Rome by bringing forward under the guise of a health and safety issue, on which individual member states have no veto, proposals relating to core employment terms and conditions, which EU members have the power to block.

Long hours are endemic in the UK, as the graphic shows. They are also on the increase: 3.9 million people in Britain now work more than 48 hours a week, compared with 2.7 million in 1984 — a rise of 41 per cent. Most long hours are worked by men, with industries such as mining and quarrying, agriculture and transport seeing the longest hours. Managers and blue-collar workers alike work long hours.

New research by the Institute of Personnel and Development shows that the long hours that people in Britain now work are more than they are contracted to work. Pushed by high workloads and a sense of obligation, on average British employees work nine hours a week beyond their contracted level.

More than a third of employees say they cannot imagine working any harder. Angela Baron, an IPD policy adviser, says: "In the long term it is unlikely that people can keep up with the punishing pace of work we are witnessing, and the trick is going to be to balance short-term gains with long-term effectiveness."

Health experts say stress-related illness is now estimated to cause the loss of 40 million working days in Britain every year, at a cost to industry of up to £8 billion. In the face of this, public support for legislation like the working time directive is strong. Poll evidence compiled for the TUC shows 78 per cent of people — including 72 per cent of Conservative voters — backing new laws to make it illegal for people to be

forced to work more than 48 hours a week. Away from the high politics swamping today's judgment, how does business see the issue? Putting it simply, business views the working time directive with a great deal less fear and furore than the political world.

While business leaders at the CBI and in industries like engineering will today make it clear that they would rather not see the directive in place, they will be a long way from opposing it in practice. They will insist instead that the flexibilities inherent in it are extensive, and that the Government ought to apply it in a way which takes maximum account of them. The table makes clear which specific provisions in the directive can be open to change.

On the ground, just as they did with the recent provisions on European-style works councils, companies are struggling off the political arguments and pragmatically getting on with it. Ilford is one. Britain's heating and ventilating industry is another.

The industry has just reached agreement with the MSF general technical union for a 1996-97 pay deal. As well as a rise of 2.5 per cent, the agreement includes a clause — thought to be one of the first of its kind in British industry — relating specifically to the working time directive, by providing for the calculation of the 48-hour maximum working week over 12, rather than four months, as laid down in the directive. Bill Belshaw, president elect of the industry's association, says the deal marks "important steps in the modernisation of employee relations in the industry."

Such detailed pragmatism is likely to be the hallmark of the response of industry and trade union leaders to the directive, rather than the positioning of politicians. Political leaders need to know how to make capital out of today's judgment and the directive behind it: business needs to know what it is, and how to get on with it.

First agreed in November 1993, directive 93/104 has to be implemented in EU member states by November 23. Brought forward under existing legislation, the directive will apply to the UK, if that is what the court announces today,

because it is not part of the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty, from which Britain has opted out, though UK ministers may seek to have it included within the provisions of the opt-out if today's court judgment goes against them.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, was clear yesterday about what the Government will do: "We intend to make sure it applies in this country." But if the court rejects Britain's legal challenge, the directive will apply to all workers in Britain, with some key exceptions — doctors in training, and workers in air, rail, road, sea, inland waterway, sea fishing and lake transport.

But the directive offers considerable opportunity for flexibility by adopting the so-called "derogations" contained within it — variations of the standards laid down which can be agreed between employers and employees — though employment lawyers are currently arguing whether the Government's legal challenge and the timing of today's judgment already puts at least some of these derogations out of Britain's reach. Despite the lucrative potential that directive offers to lawyers, what is clear is that today's judgment will set a very tight legal timetable ticking. From public sector workers in particular, the Government may face the possibility of legal action to enforce the directive, depending on today's outcome — and public sector unions are already actively searching their files for cases to bring rapidly against the Government under this heading.

In one sense, then, today's judgment is only the start of the argument over the legal impact of the working time directive in Britain — how and when it is implemented, and how quickly. But in another, it will be an explicit punctuation mark on working time which, if the court judgment does go as expected, will for the first time in the UK give new rights such as paid holidays to employees, and which the Government will have no practical choice but to apply. That will be politically explosive — but as often before, business will have to pick up the pieces, and get on as some companies are doing already with the practical job of putting it into effect.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

## Look to bonds for next crash

Two weeks ago I gently suggested in this column that world financial markets had moved into the phase where the lunatics take over the asylum. Since then there have indeed been some pretty wild market movements: Wall Street has soared, London's bull market seems to have died, the dollar has plunged by 2 per cent in one memorable night in Tokyo, and Italy has been recognised by widows and orphans as a better long-term credit than Britain.

There is nothing unusual about such crazy periods. Speculative attacks strike one market or another every few years. In the early 1980s it happened to gold and oil. In 1987 the speculators rushed into American and European shares and then, two years later, into Japanese land and equities. In 1993 it was the turn of Asian emerging markets and bonds the world over. And in spring 1995 it was the Japanese yen that suffered (or gained, depending on your point of view).

The only thing that is a bit unusual about the present bout of speculative fever is the discrepancy between the visible symptoms and the diagnoses proposed by financial experts.

Investors the world over have chewed their fingernails down to the quick worrying about the extreme valuations on Wall Street — and American experts have been warning about the unsustainable growth of foreign government holdings of dollars and US Treasury bonds.

Yet, looking at the actual behaviour of markets, American equities and the dollar have moved steadily upwards in a perfectly controlled, almost stately, progression.

Meanwhile, the markets that really have been pushed by speculation to ludicrous extremes — Japanese and continental bonds, Hong Kong equities, all kinds of Swiss assets — have been treated as safe havens by investors trying to shelter from the supposedly excessive risks of putting their money in America.

The British markets, positioned psychologically in mid-Atlantic, have suffered from the worst of both worlds. The pound has strengthened dangerously on the perception that it is a safe haven from both American instability and the uncertainties of European monetary union. The stock market has fallen sharply, partly because of the strong pound and Kenneth Clarke's rate increase, but mostly, I suspect, because investors fear an imminent crash, presumably on Wall Street.

The dreaded crash will surely come. But what few investors seem to expect — and what is therefore quite likely to happen — is a crash somewhere less obvious than Wall Street. Where, then, might we witness the next financial earthquake? The most plausible answer is not in equities but in bonds and specifically in the government bond markets of Japan and Europe.

Bond markets all over the world now seem more vulnerable than equities for two main reasons. First, the markets are now behaving as if

the possibility of inflation has been eliminated not just for the next few years, but forever. Secondly, even if inflation were as extinct as the dinosaurs, the present level of bond yields would also require the permanent extermination of economic growth and credit demand around the world.

The Japanese Government is now borrowing money at 2.5 per cent for ten years and has recently sold 30-year bonds paying less than 3.5 per cent until 2026. These bonds will surely prove the worst investment ever offered to unsuspecting punters since the British Government issued its irredeemable War Loan at 3.5 per cent.

In Europe, meanwhile, top-notch borrowers have been flooding the Eurobond markets with zero-coupon paper in Italian lire, yielding less than 8 per cent for ten years or more. It is worth recalling that the interest rates now being offered by Italy — and, remember, still in Italian lire — are lower than the interest rates Germany was paying in marks less than five years ago.

The only thing that could justify such permanently low interest rates, either in Japan or in Europe, would be a permanent recession, on top of complete price stability for up to 30 years.

Perhaps this is, indeed, what the markets assume. In Japan there seem to be precious few signs either of inflation or economic recovery, despite unprecedented efforts at monetary and fiscal stimulation. In Europe price stability seems assured by the prospect of monetary union, while perpetual recession is guaranteed by the proposed stability pact that the German Government again demanded yesterday afternoon. But here's the rub.

Conditions in Japan finally seem to be turning. Just when foreign investors have finally given up hope of a Japanese economic recovery and started selling their shares in Tokyo, the yen has begun to strengthen, the stock market has pulled out of its doldrums and bond prices have gone into free fall.

In Europe the outlook for bond investors is, if anything, even worse. The markets have been gaily dancing on the grave of the Bundesbank, but now the German Government itself is casting doubts on Germany's willingness to soften the EMU terms. And what if Germany does finally agree to turn the euro into a Cameroun currency in order to admit France, Spain and Italy? Would anyone seriously expect a European Central Bank in which these countries commanded a clear majority over the Germans and Dutch to behave in the same way as the Bundesbank?

Why, then, should the yields on Italian and Spanish bonds converge down to German levels? It would surely be more logical for convergence to move the other way — with German yields rising to meet those of Italy and Spain. In comparison with Europe, Wall Street is a safe haven even with the Dow at 6,000 plus.

### Fraser Nelson on this year's NatWest/The Times competition

## A searching test of student ingenuity

You are the managing director of NatWest, whose recent run of bad fortunes could be reversed by a contract to build a motorway through rural Berkshire.

It's a chance to turn your company around and avoid job cuts, but the bypass is bitterly opposed by local residents, who have teamed up with environmental activists to thwart its construction. The wrath of the national media has been aroused, and protesters are plotting to unleash chaos on your annual meeting. What do you do?

This is the moral dilemma put to candidates for this year's Business Ethics Competition, sponsored by The Times, NatWest Group/The Times. It challenges undergraduates to put themselves in the place of the industry's decision-makers and to provide morally defensible solutions to complicated ethical problems.

The challenge, now in its third year, comes as part of a general campaign to make ethics a prominent part of business studies training.

Derek Wanless, chief executive of NatWest, will be one of the six judges.

The competition, he says, is aimed at raising the level of the business ethics debate on campus. "Business ethics are now firmly on the agenda in boardrooms. They are important because companies now recognise that easy, short-term solutions can often lead to harmful long-term consequences for their profitability, or their relationship with particular groups of stakeholders."

This year's judges include John Drummond, managing director of Integrity Works, a business ethics consultancy. He forecasts that as ethics become increasingly important in business, the ability to solve moral quandaries will prove an essential discipline for future executives.

"Today's consumer is demanding more evidence of moral integrity from com-

panies, as well as quality and cost," he says. "This makes business decisions a lot more complex, and requires executives to be capable of a much wider understanding of the issues they deal with."

The other judges are John Monks, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, Rabbi Julia Neuberger, chairman of Camden and Islington

Community Health Services NHS Trust, and Lindsay Cook, business editor of The Times. Mr Monks says the winner will have grasped all sides of the motorway dilemma. "We will be looking for someone who understands that business is not just about profit maximisation. They should show awareness that the way people are treated has

a big affect on how they perform."

There are sound commercial reasons for undergraduates to enter: the first prize is £3,000, while the second and third prizes are worth £2,000 and £1,000 respectively. All awards are matched with a similar amount paid to the winners' universities.

Last year's competition was based on another familiar ethical dilemma: a supermarket manager asked to relocate from an unprofitable suburban store to a much larger city centre building. The store's old customers are very unhappy, and the company's name is being blackened by the local press.

The best solution came from Chris Ayres, who was studying at Hull University. He argued that the suburban store should be kept open for a further two months, in which time the supermarket would find a bus company willing to

transport its former customers to the new site. Low-income families should be able to exchange their bus tickets for grocery discounts, he continued, and the harsher comments from the local press could be countered through the use of advertising.

The solution should satisfy shareholders' demands for expansion, Mr Ayres concluded, while placating all but the most fervent protester.

According to ethical campaigners, these exercises will become as crucial to business training as accountancy. If the trend towards ethical business continues, tomorrow's employers will be looking for graduates to demonstrate their moral, as well as commercial, business acumen.

The competition is open to any undergraduate studying for a first degree. The closing date is February 28. Entry forms can be obtained from Anthony Fisher, NatWest Business Ethics Competition, Room 217, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

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## Brighter outlook at Sidlaw after loss of £7.3m

By FRASER NELSON

SIDLAW, the troubled packaging company, yesterday reported pre-tax losses of £7.27 million for the year to September 30. However, its new chief executive claimed that the company has finally turned the corner.

John Durston, who joined the company last month, said that after having jettisoned its oil services division and loss-making packaging plants, the company was on course to return its first interim profit for two years.

Last year's heavy losses included exceptional charges of £8.2 million, including costs of disposing of unprofitable factories and of replacing Digby Morrow, the former chief executive, who received a £570,000 pay-off after being ousted in May.

Mr Durston said that Sidlaw had already seen business pick up in its second half. He said: "Some customers were let down in terms of service, and that had a bad effect on the order book. But now we are seeing growth in the fast-moving consumer goods, and our order books are pretty near full."

Having sold its oil services arm to its management last month for £50 million, the company now operates entirely from 13 flexible packaging plants across Europe. However, Mr Durston admitted that some remaining plants were still in difficulty. Although further closures were unlikely, they could not be ruled out, he said.

Overall, turnover was flat at £290 million (£283 million). On an underlying basis, profits were £1 million (£7.3 million) and earnings per share 1.6p (8.3p). In spite of a loss, after exceptional items, of 12p per share (1.7p loss), a final dividend of 1p will be paid on February 7 making the year's total 2p (11p).

## Triplex Lloyd gets into top gear with 84% more



TRIPLEX LLOYD, the Midlands engineering group, produced a sparkling set of results yesterday showing interim pre-tax profits 84 per cent higher at £6.2 million (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Turnover in the six months to September 30 was £98.4 million, up from £97.9 million a year earlier.

Underlying earnings per share were 19 per cent higher at 7p while the interim dividend is unchanged at 2.5p per share, payable on February 21.

Colin Cooke, chairman, left, pictured with Graham Lockyer, said he was "encouraged by the buoyant level of the group's order books" that stood

at £66.7 million, compared with £61.5 million a year ago. He said the increase in overseas sales to 42 per cent of group turnover, from 40 per cent, confirmed the value of focusing "on businesses related to our key areas of expertise which produce technically advanced products and services".

## Executives in majority if Emap rebels are removed

By JASON NISSE

EMAP, the media group, has no plans to replace two rebel non-executive directors, whom it is asking shareholders to vote off the board at next month's extraordinary meeting.

Removing the two rebels — Joe Cooke and Ken Simmonds — who tried to unseat Sir John Hoskyns, the company's chairman, among other protests, will reduce the number of non-executive directors from seven to five, putting them in a minority to the six executive directors on Emap's board.

Sir John said he believed that five non-executives was the right number for the Emap

board. The company would not be searching for new non-executives until Richard Winfrey had retired next year.

Sir John said the company would not address the issue of succession — at the heart of the row with Mr Cooke and Professor Simmonds — until after the annual meeting next July. Sir John is not planning to retire until July 1998.

Emap starts a tour of institutional investors today. It hopes to kill off rumours of a row between Robin Miller, the chief executive, and David Arculus, the managing director. Mr Arculus said he had

tried to arbitrate between Sir John and Mr Miller on one side and the rebel directors on the other, without success.

Sources at Emap say there has been creative tension between Mr Miller and Mr Arculus in the past, but the fact that neither has left, despite Mr Arculus being offered jobs such as chief executive of ITV, spoke for itself.

Mr Miller said he hoped the institutions would concentrate on the company's better than expected results for the half year to September 30, announced yesterday. These showed pre-tax profits up 34

per cent at £50.6 million, earnings per share up a third at 16p and a half-year dividend, payable on January 10, of 4.3p a share (3.7p). The shares rose 27½p to 750p.

The performance came despite a fall in advertising revenues in France, where Emap has been building a substantial magazine business. The fall was blamed on the sluggishness of the economy. Mr Miller said this business was being rationalised to enable it expand rapidly when the market picked up.

The company is also planning further expansion in

radio, perhaps on the Continent, despite a slowing in the exceptional rates of growth seen in that sector.

Emap has also shown itself to be one of the few publishers able to make money from the Internet. Compuserve is using the Emap consumer titles' web sites to sell subscriptions. With the *FHM* men's magazine being the most visited site, and Emap has developed its own browser service. It is now developing specialist business-to-business services related to its magazine titles.

Tempus, page 30

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Chesterfield to pay £22m for Albion

ROBERT MAXTED, the property investor, is selling Albion Property Investments, his private property firm, to Chesterfield Properties for £21.9 million. Chesterfield will pay for Albion via an issue of ordinary shares at 545p each and warrants at 700p. Existing Chesterfield ordinary shares rose by 41½p, to 544p, yesterday. Mr Maxted, aged 49, is to be chief executive of the enlarged group, which will have pro forma net assets of £166 million. He will be on an initial two-year contract at an annual salary of £170,000. Mr Maxted said that the Albion transaction, which requires the approval of Chesterfield shareholders, was "an astute move for both companies".

The enlarged company will explore ways of separating its entertainment interests to concentrate on property activities. Albion, formed in late 1995, has a portfolio of 28 properties valued at £110 million at the end of September and producing an estimated net rental income of £11.4 million a year. Mr Maxted was a founding shareholder and chief executive of Pillar Property Investments from 1991 to 1994.

### TI wins Forsheda

TI GROUP, the UK engineering and aerospace company, has declared victory in its £189 million battle to acquire Forsheda, the Swedish manufacturer of polymer seals. TI yesterday said that it had received acceptances in respect of 78.7 per cent of Forsheda's shares capital and 90.2 per cent of voting rights. The offer has been declared unconditional and the acceptance period has been extended to November 22. The terms of the offer had been opposed by Henderson Investors, the UK fund management company, which spoke for 12.7 per cent of Forsheda.

### Charles Sidney advances

CHARLES SIDNEY, the automotive distributor that specialises in Mercedes-Benz cars and trucks, said that current trading was in line with expectations. Passenger car dealerships have improved their performance but the truck outlets performed less well in a weak market. The company, which has changed its year-end to December 31, reported second interim profits of £5.7 million for the 12 months to August 31, up 56 per cent. Earnings rose 30 per cent to 9.5p. A second interim dividend is not being paid but a final dividend will be paid for the extended 16-month reporting period.

### Critchley lifts payout

CRITCHLEY GROUP, the manufacturer of identification products and components for the electrical and telecommunications industries, is increasing its interim dividend by 14 per cent to 4p a share after reporting a 26 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £3.71 million for the half year to September 30. Earnings per share rose 15 per cent to 15.8p. The company said that sales of key products, including automatic wire marking, computer printable labels and electronic wound components, have grown significantly and that overseas business has been most encouraging.

### Cleveland moves ahead

CLEVELAND TRUST, the industrial property investment company, which is also the operator of the port of Boston, Lincolnshire, said that total pre-tax profits increased to £916,000 from £606,000 in the half-year period that ended on September 30. Earnings were 4p a share, rising from 3.1p in the previous comparable period, and the interim dividend is increased to 2.5p a share from 2.45p. Cleveland acquired a 7.5 per cent interest in the port of Boston in July this year at a cost of £465,000, initiating a diversification from the company's traditional core business.

### ABB buys GEC Meters

ABB, the international electrical engineering company, has acquired GEC Meters, the United Kingdom's largest manufacturer of electric meters for domestic and industrial applications, for an undisclosed sum. The company, based at Stone, Staffordshire, employs about 700 people and has annual sales of about £29 million. GEC Meters will be renamed ABB Metering Systems and will form part of ABB's global power transmission and distribution segment. ABB employs 13,000 people in the United Kingdom, with revenues of about £1 billion in 1995.

### Big Bang for Tokyo

RUYTARO HASHIMOTO, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday announced a plan for a Japanese version of Big Bang to make the Tokyo financial markets better able to compete with those of New York and London (Robert Whyman writes).

The financial reform plan aims to make the Tokyo

markets "free, fair and global" through sweeping deregulation measures.

The announcement comes amid growing concern at the flight of foreign companies from the stock, currency and other financial markets in Tokyo because of business restrictions and high trading costs.

### Japan's surplus down by a third

FROM ROBERT WHYMAN IN TOKYO

SPENDING by Japanese tourists, and rising oil prices, helped to cut Japan's formidable current account surplus by more than a third in the first half of the fiscal year. The decline in merchandise trade continued, but economists said that the trend was being slowed by the dollar's rise against the yen, and might be reversed next fiscal year.

The current account surplus fell 35.3 per cent in the six months to September, to ¥3.37 trillion (£18 billion), compared with a year ago. The figure is the lowest for any half-year period since the second half of 1990 and marks a decrease for the sixth consecutive six-month span.

Import growth continues to outpace the rise in exports. Japan's surplus in merchandise trade fell 32.1 per cent, to ¥4.15 trillion, the smallest figure for any six-month period and down for the seventh consecutive half-year span. This was because of a 29.8 per cent rise in Japan's import bill for crude oil, on higher prices, and a strong performance by imports of office equipment and other goods.

The tourism account had its biggest deficit for any six-month period, reflecting the unabated appetite of the Japanese for foreign travel.

September saw a 35.6 per cent fall from the same month last year, to ¥727.4 billion.

With the yen down nearly 30 per cent since spring 1995, imports to Japan have surged in yen value, but volume growth has slowed sharply this year.

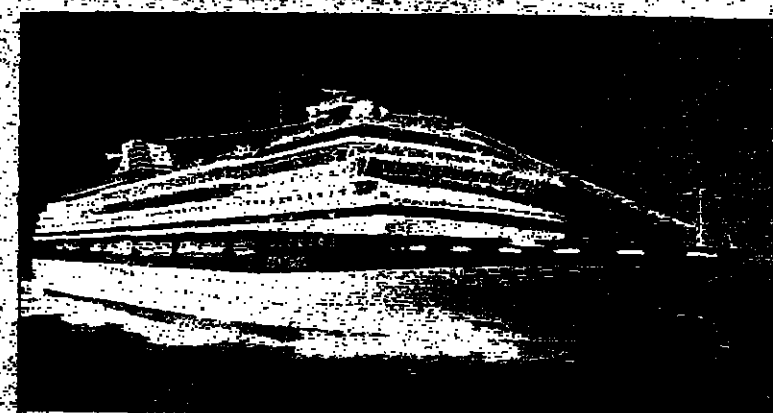
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CHANGING TIMES



**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes in yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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[illegible]

1995 High Low	1994 High Low	Company	Price p/s	1995 PE	1995 High Low	Company	Price p/s	1995 PE
527	520	Alcatel	511	72	53	72	53	72
528	521	Alcatel	512	72	53	72	53	72
529	522	Alcatel	513	72	53	72	53	72
530	523	Alcatel	514	72	53	72	53	72
531	524	Alcatel	515	72	53	72	53	72
532	525	Alcatel	516	72	53	72	53	72
533	526	Alcatel	517	72	53	72	53	72
534	527	Alcatel	518	72	53	72	53	72
535	528	Alcatel	519	72	53	72	53	72
536	529	Alcatel	520	72	53	72	53	72
537	530	Alcatel	521	72	53	72	53	72
538	531	Alcatel	522	72	53	72	53	72
539	532	Alcatel	523	72	53	72	53	72
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the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 17 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997).

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Overseas companies have located the 'feel-good' factor, and it is in the UK. David Crawford introduces a four-page report

# Britain rockets to top of league

Britain is high on the world's shopping list for new business locations. According to the Invest in Britain Bureau, no fewer than 48,000 jobs were created here during the financial year 1995/96, the result of 477 completed inward investment projects from 29 countries.

In one year, more than a third of all external investment into the European Union has come to Britain. Nearly half the job-creating moves originate in America, where companies are looking for a culturally friendly base in Europe. Asian interest is also becoming significant.

Newport in South Wales gained the largest single European investment ever made by a Korean company when electronics giant LG — which already produces microwave ovens at Washington in the North East — committed itself to a £1.7 billion manufacturing investment worth 6,100 jobs over six years.

Completing a spread of overseas investment in all four UK member countries are Hyundai's two-stage microchip manufacturing investment in Dunfermline, Scotland, and £80 million of Korean projects in Northern Ireland. Britain now has the largest slice of Korean investment of any EU member country.

Once Britain is on a company's shopping list, particular locations tend to be evaluated on a whole-country basis by decision-makers unaffected by historical, geographical or regional preferences. This is to the advantage of a key player in the market, the Commission for the New Towns (CNT), which currently has more than 2,500 acres of developable land and 350,000 square metres of industrial and commercial floorspace available throughout the English new towns.

Dr John Bradfield, the CNT chairman, argues that much of the international investment being attracted to his 21 locations could well have been lost to the country altogether if the new towns had not existed. "Several companies have informed us," he says, "that for the location of a European subsidiary, their choice was between a new town as their only UK selection and a Continental location."

CNT locations are still capturing a disproportionate number of start-ups "because they have been de-

signed for new business and have in-built opportunities for future growth", says CNT marketing manager Stephen Ludford. A recent coup involved Japanese motorcycle components manufacturer FCC choosing a 6.8-acre site in Milton Keynes rather than cheaper locations in mainland Europe for its first European assembly base — despite the fact that 90 per cent of the company's output is destined for Continental markets such as Spain or Italy. FCC made the choice it did because the UK offered the best overall package of a skilled and competitive labour force, relatively low production costs — and reduced language barriers, according to company president Yoshihide Yamamoto.

Relocations need not be on a grand scale to be significant, though. Tentative moves by overseas companies wanting to test the

company secretary Avril Maybury rates the move "a relocation success" and DataWorks is already planning to consolidate its presence by moving into its own building in Birmingham in 1997.

Encouraging as current success rates are, however, there is a growing awareness that complacency could prove disastrous. Britain's European partners are becoming increasingly competitive — not least since they recognise that many of them have a language problem to overcome.

The global mobility of capital and the present tide of corporate rationalisations within the EU both mean that Britain needs to allocate resources, not only to wooing new investments, but to keeping existing ones (expansions are currently running at twice the rate of new arrivals). To maximise Britain's opportunities on both fronts, the

Invest in Britain Bureau is introducing the Invest in Britain Information Service (IBIS), a digitised databank which uses ISDN technology to match investor needs as logged by British commercial posts throughout the world with site and labour availability in likely regions of the UK.

Already live for Yorkshire and Humberside, and the East Midlands, IBIS is being progressively rolled out to deliver total national coverage by early 1999 — ahead of emerging European competition from, most notably, Germany.

IBIS is a key element in the IBB's new International Investor Development Programme (IIDP) which is making progress on another major initiative — the bench-marking of regional development organisations.

This acknowledges how vital it is to deliver the second-tier financial, professional and technical support services that companies will need once development and expansion projects are "handed down" from national level.

In the final analysis, achieving the right location first-time round is the most efficient way of retaining the value of future investments. Recent research by the CBI and CNT shows that of relocations undertaken by companies based in the UK, two thirds take place within a ten-mile radius.

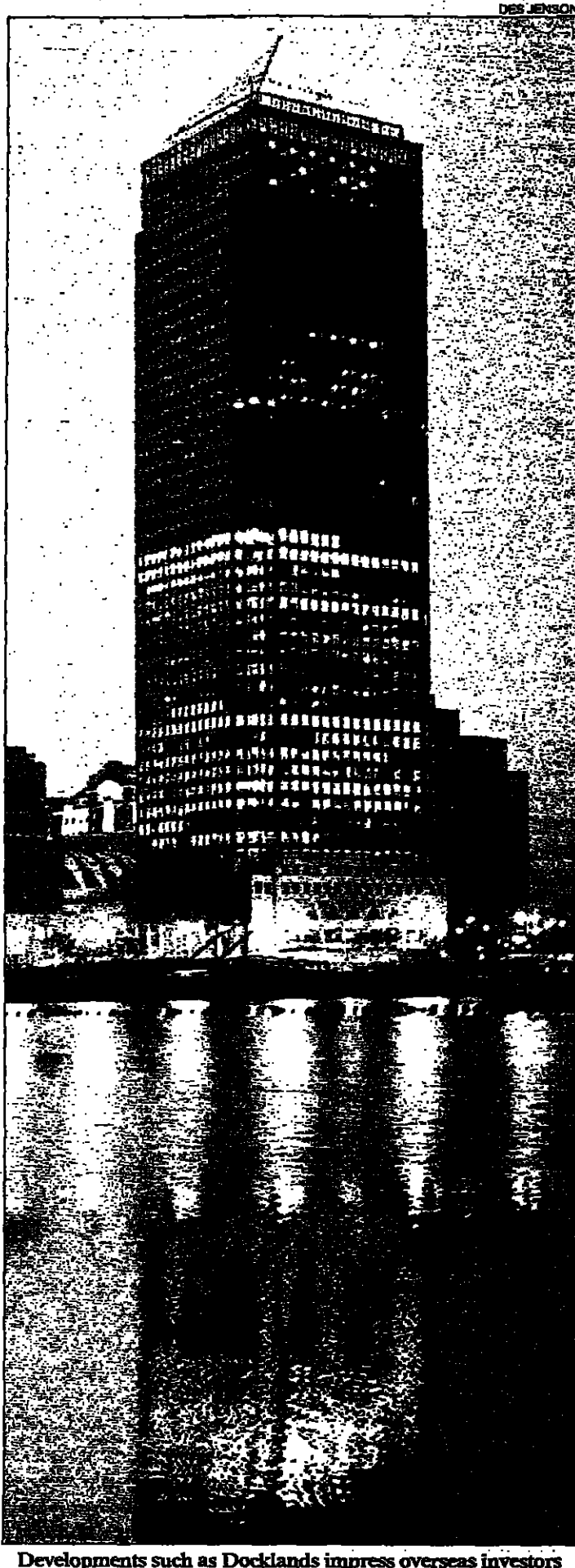
**'Newport in South Wales gained the largest single European investment ever made by a Korean company'**

UK or (more commonly) the European market from a low-cost representative office before making a major commitment are a growing phenomenon, mirroring established US practice.

The demand from overseas companies is being met by organisations such as Regus, which opened up with a single outlet overlooking Trafalgar Square in 1989.

Now it operates a network of more than 130 serviced business centres in 34 countries. Up to 50 per cent of its clients in the UK are international companies looking for an initial foothold in Europe, many of them choosing locations on well-designed business parks which offer short-term occupancy for anything between 60 and 80 occupiers.

A typical recent arrival at Regus's Birmingham Airport Business Centre, developed on property group Arlington's Birmingham Business Park, is US software group DataWorks, which decided in January that it needed to open a UK subsidiary office from which to attack the European market. Com-



Developments such as Docklands impress overseas investors

## Capital is still leading the pack

London is now riding high on a succession of favourable surveys of business and life-style opinion. Voted Europe's best city for business by 500 European company directors for the seventh consecutive year in the *European Cities Monitor*, from the property consultants Healey & Baker, the capital has comfortably defeated rivals, including Paris and Frankfurt, on key location criteria. These include market access, transport links and telecommunications.

Meanwhile, more than 700 British executives have voted London the best city out of 24 in a poll organised by Black Horse Relocation Services and *Management Today* magazine — displacing Birmingham, which unexpectedly came top last year. In America, *Fortune* magazine has named London as the best European city to live in (and the second best in the world, after Toronto). *Newsweek* has voted it the world's trendiest metropolis.

Robert Gordon-Clark, of the London First Centre (LFC), these

ratings endorse the capital's "powerful appeal and undisputed pre-eminence — finance, film-making, pharmaceuticals and fashion are all growth areas and all part of the mix".

Since its formation in April 1994 as a part public, part privately-funded inward investment agency for the capital, the LFC has helped more than 60 international companies to locate or remain in (or close to) London. Half of these are American-owned.

At the same time, there is rising interest from South East Asia. An important Thai company is now looking to establish a presence, while a number of second-tier Korean concerns are prospecting for London bases from which to service the *chaebol* (Korean conglomerates) which have been rapidly establishing themselves throughout Britain.

LFC's target for this financial year is 40 completions, and its success rate to date is running ahead of target. Inquiries at 106, are already double last year's level. Recent coups include Delta Airlines, which has consolidated its 12 West European reservation sales offices at Park Royal, West London, and Norton Healthcare, a subsidiary of the American IVAX Corporation. Norton has recently chosen

London Docklands as the site for new European HQ.

The Norton project, which involves relocating 500 staff from Harlow, Essex, as well as the planned creation of 500 new jobs in the year 2000, is LFC's eleventh largest European headquarters location so far. It also represents one of the earliest large schemes to get under way in the Royal Dock.

The 15,000 sq metres research and customer service complex, one of the first commercial buildings to accrue from Docklands' success in securing the EC's European Medicines Evaluation Agency.

The European research and development departments of a number of Japanese and US medical products companies are prospecting for sites which are convenient both to the agency, and for opportunities to work in conjunction with London's prestigious medical schools, hospitals and universities. Imperial College and Northwick Park Hospital are among institutions where their ups are being sought.

In the financial sector, fears that

**Fears of cities in mainland Europe taking over — are fading**

London's position as a global centre was coming under threat from mainland European rivals have been assuaged by strategic moves such as those of Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest, and Credit Lyonnais.

The financial services sector target is the global insurance industry. London had an official presence for the first time earlier this year at the industry annual Monte Carlo Rendezvous. Negotiations have subsequently gone under way with two important companies (one of which is aiming to re-establish a presence) and three from mainland Europe, while a project involves assisting a South African concern planning to enter the life assurance field.

On a much smaller scale, by reflecting London's rise in pre-eminence in the fashion world, the US-based photographic laboratories group Loy-Taubman Inc (LTI) rejected initial thoughts of Paris on the grounds of linguistic and cultural obstacles, in favour of trendy Clerkenwell. LTI's owner, Eric Taubman, who specialises in fashion and advertising photography, says: "London has a very strong reputation for creativity and quality design, and I believe it is set to become the design centre of Europe."

## Cardiff Bay

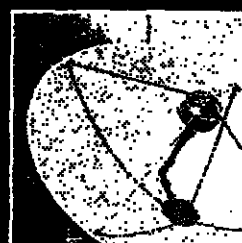


Success breeds success. Look at Cardiff Bay — the vibrant waterfront location in Europe's fastest growing coastal city.

More than £60 million is being invested, this year alone, in office and commercial leisure developments in the Bay's inner Harbour. Private sector investment in the Bay has already reached £200 million and includes some of Europe's largest financial services companies such as NCM Group, Insurance, AXA and Prudential.

The development of a 200,000 sq m technology business park is taking the Bay to the world via leading-edge satellite telecommunications and is providing increased interest in Cardiff Bay for public domain operations.

Success breeds success. Share in it.



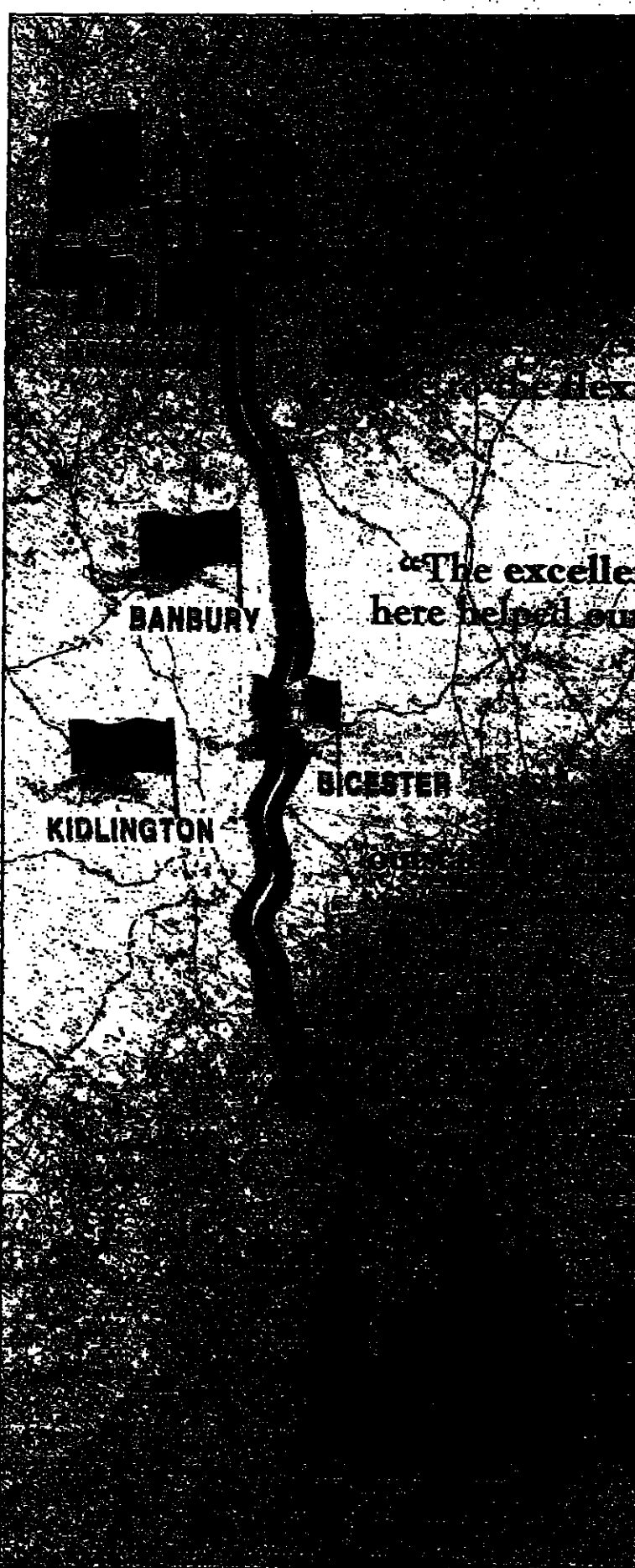
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**North Oxfordshire**



# The regenerating game

From the Tyne  
to the Channel,  
industry is on  
the move, says  
Craig Seton

## THE REGIONS

There is growing evidence that overseas investors increasingly regard sites in many of the English regions as prime locations to serve their British and European customers. Following the decisions of Korean firm Samsung Electronics to establish a complex in Teesside, and Siemens to set up a £1.1 billion microchip plant on North Tyneside, further arrivals are expected.

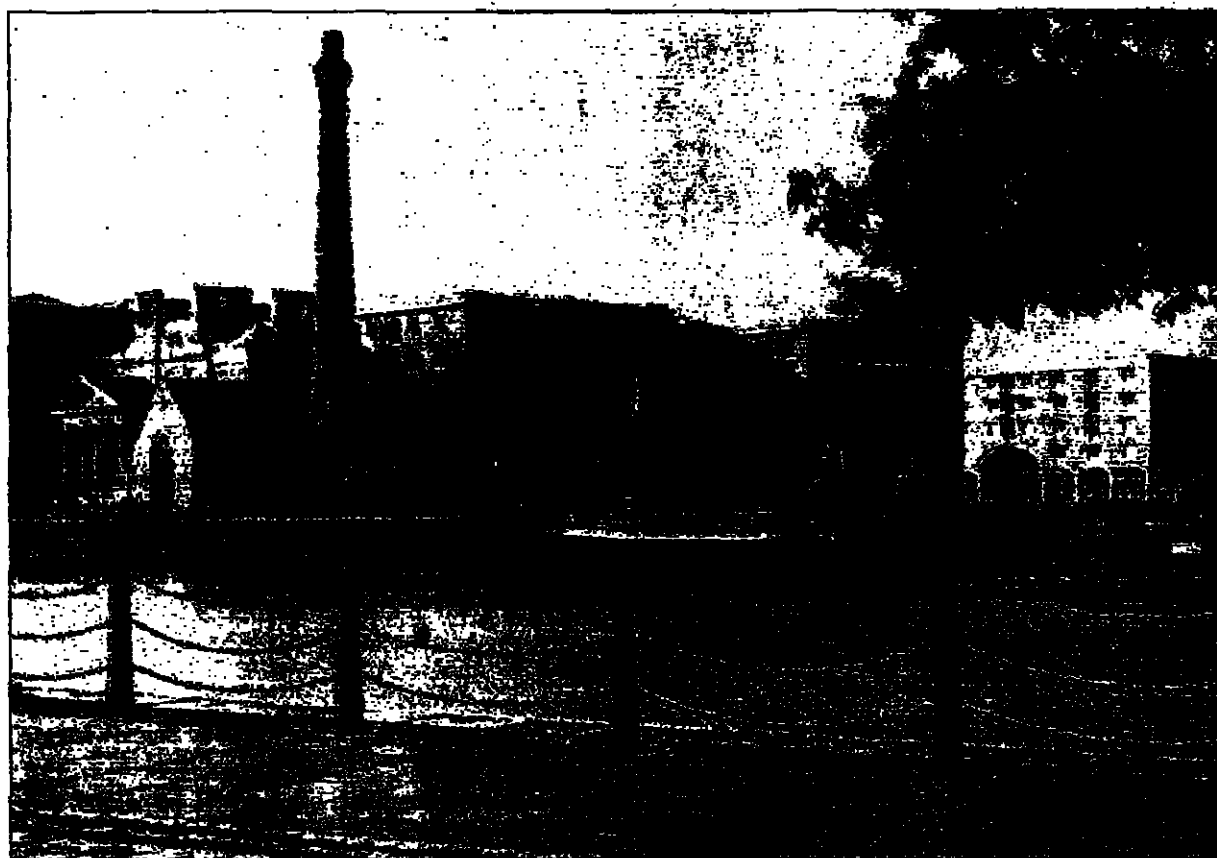
The proximity of Manchester airport and the motorway network influenced the American electronics firm Photronics to build a multi-million-pound plant at Trafford Park Development Corporation's Wharfside site in Manchester. The firm has been backed by £3 million-worth of financial assistance.

In Liverpool, the American membership warehouse club PriceCostco set up last year on a 14-acre derelict site that was regenerated by the Merseyside Development Corporation. Merseyside is also being promoted as a prime location for the development of call centre services, with US-owned QVC building a £14 million call centre at Knowsley for a home-shopping TV channel.

In the West Midlands, centre of the UK automotive industry, Jaguar is expanding its plant at Castle Bromwich, West Midlands, in a £400 million project to produce a small executive car. The Rover Group plans to build a new compact four-wheel-drive sports utility vehicle at its Land Rover plant in Solihull.

A new joint venture, Unipart Yachiyo Technology, is building a £35 million plant in Coventry to produce body components for Honda, creating 150 jobs.

In the East Midlands, the 300-acre Eurohub international road and rail freight delivery, distribution and collection



Albert Dock was regenerated by Merseyside Development Corporation, which aims to attract overseas investors.

complex has been opened in Corby, Northamptonshire. It will play a major role in automotive imports and exports.

American-owned Applied Materials Europe announced plans this month to establish a European technical centre at Royal Quays in the Tyne Riverside Enterprise Zone, to train engineers for the semiconductor industry. It is a first step by regional development bodies towards creating a European microelectronics institute in the north of England.

In Yorkshire and Humberside, three Korean electrical firms are locating in the Dearne valley — and the German car component firm LUK (UK) has announced a £9 million expansion of its factory near Rotherham.

Kingston upon Hull, a single-tier unitary authority since April, is now flexing its muscles to attract inward investment. Already home to companies including Birds Eye Walls, Rank Hovis McDougall and Smith & Nephew, it aims to become a

leading European maritime city, using its access to northern Europe to attract exporting firms.

The Tees Valley Development Corporation is citing an abundance of water for industrial processes as a reason for firms to locate within its boundaries, together with its high levels of financial incentives, green field sites, trained workforce and docks.

Dover, Kent, has initiatives to replace thousands of jobs lost in the ferry industry. Phase one of the White Cliffs Business Park offers serviced sites for potential relocators and expanding local firms, while a proposed £100 million redevelopment of the Western Docks is underway to create an office and leisure centre.

The Cherwell-M40 Investment Partnership is promoting Banbury, Oxfordshire, as an attractive area for inward investors. The organisation has created 1,000 jobs in each of the past five years and is seeking new clients for 300 acres of development land.

A new junction of the M5 motorway in Gloucestershire

is opening up access to a business park on the 280-acre site near Gloucester being developed by Arlington. A partnership of local authorities and the county Training and Enterprise Council wants the Ministry of Defence's former 600-acre site at RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire passed to it as collateral to raise funds for mixed development.

In the east of England,

private and public sector partners are forming a development agency that hopes to attract inward investment to Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. The Commission for the New Towns has sold a £1.8 million site in Stevenage to the Dixons Group plc, enabling the firm to go ahead with a £20 million expansion of its national distribution centre.

## Sights now set on research and development

Scotland's ambitions extend well beyond the return of the Stone of Scone. One of its targets is the acquisition of the Crown Jewels.

Not the contents of the Tower of London but something that Locat in Scotland, the inward investment arm of Scottish Enterprise and the Scottish Office, values more highly: company research and development.

This fanciful description of R and D is a favourite of Martin Tognetti, Locat in Scotland's director, who reiterates the need to target knowledge-intensive investment. "It's natural that companies adopt the view that their R and D facilities are something they should not let out of their sight," he says. "But the potential is there to win some for Scotland."

The good news for Scotland is that it continues to attract a record share of the UK's inward investment, creating or underpinning 1,000 jobs a month, against mounting competition from Romania, the Czech Republic and Denmark.

The value of this year's investment has received a dramatic boost in the announcement that the Korean electronics group Hyundai is to spend £1 billion on a semiconductor plant in Dumfries. Work will start early next year. A planned second phase will involve investment up to £1.4 billion, making it the biggest financial investment by an overseas company.

The development fits neatly into Mr Tognetti's balanced approach of seeking new companies and new

## 'Crown jewels' are the target

countries to target while encouraging companies with existing investments to expand in Scotland. "The new plant in Dumfries is much more than the popular conception of long benches in a huge shed. Hyundai is involved in a complex and sophisticated manufacturing process and will be looking for a broad range of engineering skills."

Scotland is well placed to meet the needs of knowledge-intensive investments, producing the highest number of graduates and engineering students per capita in the European Union, its total exceeded only by Norway. It tops the European table of growth rate in manufacturing productivity and Edinburgh University ranks among the world's top ten research centres in computer science.

The drive to extend the global spread of investors was rewarded in May when Shin Ho Tech became the first Korean industrial group to announce a major investment in Scotland, with a computer monitor factory at Glenrothes, creating 280 new jobs. Two more Taiwanese companies are to follow Chungwa Picture

Tubes to Lanarkshire. Chungwa, making its first investment in Europe, pioneered a Taiwanese presence in Scotland and will provide 3,300 new jobs over the next four years, the largest number ever created in the UK by an inward investment.

North America, which already accounts for half the overseas-owned plant in Scotland, is making further investments. Among a new wave of arrivals, Simple Technology of California has chosen East Kilbride for its manufacturing plant outside the US.

The same location has drawn Smart, the memory specialists, to create 245 new jobs, and a Californian aviation company is bringing 300 jobs to Prestwick. National Semiconductor is investing a further £30 million in its Greenock plant, the largest within the corporation, and IBM is expanding its pan-European Help Centre at Greenock for the third time in 18 months, raising the number employed there to 500.

Where is the future investment coming from and how may it be shaped by imminent political events? "Companies most dislike uncertainty, elections included, but I do not see any suggestion of a change in approach," says Mr Tognetti. "Business in future will be split equally between North America, Asia and Europe, and I would like to see more investment from France and Germany."

ALAN JENKINS

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*"New working practices have been implemented quickly and efficiently."*

And the workforce at Kodak? They've an enviable reputation for meeting quality standards and adopting new management systems.

For instance, a new business development of supplying photographic materials to hundreds of mini-labs throughout the UK has already achieved a Perfect Delivery level of 98% OTIFNE (On Time, In Full, No Errors) when 90% is regarded as excellent. They are not however resting on their laurels as they strive for a perfect 100%.

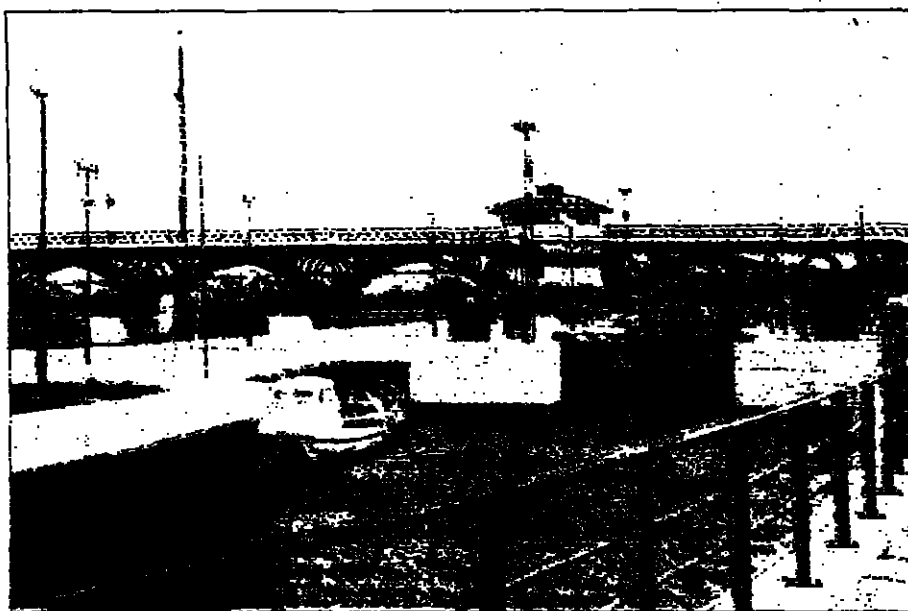
That's why Kodak has poured an extra £20 million into their Kirby plant in the last 18 months.

So whether you're in the photographic business or not, one thing's for certain.

Developing companies need look no further than Merseyside.



IVON CARNALL  
FACTORY MANAGER, KODAK



Teesside, where Samsung is opening a new plant, boasts plentiful water for industry

## Jobs galore for Valleys

During the last financial year Wales attracted £910 million worth of capital investment from overseas, thereby creating 12,273 new jobs. During the first six months of this financial year it doubled last year's total by winning capital projects worth £1.8 billion.

Already, overseas companies have created 9,810 jobs. That is only 300 jobs short of the target set for the whole year by William Hague, Secretary of State for Wales.

Much of this success is due to Newport netting the LG project for the Korean electronics company formerly known as Lucky Goldstar. When announced back in July it was Europe's largest single investment, injecting £1.7 billion into the Welsh economy and creating 6,100 new jobs.

"It is the best advert Wales can have for the next decade," says James Turner, head of inward investment at the Welsh Development Agency. "Since the announcement we have had inquiries from suppliers in Asia, California and Europe who are considering relocating to Wales to be near LG."

It is expected that these suppliers, together with their support industries, will create a further 15,000 jobs after LG's television sets and silicon chips begin production next autumn.

Korea was not the only Asian country active in Wales this summer. Following the opening of the Second Severn Crossing, the principality welcomed its 50th Japanese man-

## WALES



Gateway to Wales: the Second Severn Crossing

ufacturing company, Showa. This automotive components producer established its European manufacturing facility in the Cynon Valley, creating 200 jobs and investing £10 million.

Between them Wales's 50 Japanese firms have invested £1.5 billion in the principality and created 16,000 jobs since the first Japanese business, Takarun, moved in 24 years ago. And they are still coming. Earlier this month, Tomy Seal Industries announced plans in

locate its first manufacturing facility outside Japan in Wrexham, North Wales. There it will invest £2.4 million in producing rubber seals for the UK's automotive industry.

Wales has also benefited from new businesses moving in and from resident American-owned firms expanding. Among the former is aerosol manufacturer US Can, which made its first European investment in Merthyr. It is spending £30 million on an aerosol-can production facility that will create 120 jobs.

Late last month, General Electric and the Nordam Group of Tulsa joined forces to establish Europe's first full-service independent aircraft repair facility at Blackwood. This £6 million project is creating 170 jobs.

Among the expansions is hair-care products manufacturer Alberto Culver. It is creating 95 jobs following a £3.15 million development in Swansea.

Last week, Align-Rite announced a £11 million expansion at its Bridgend photomask plant that will create 200 new jobs.

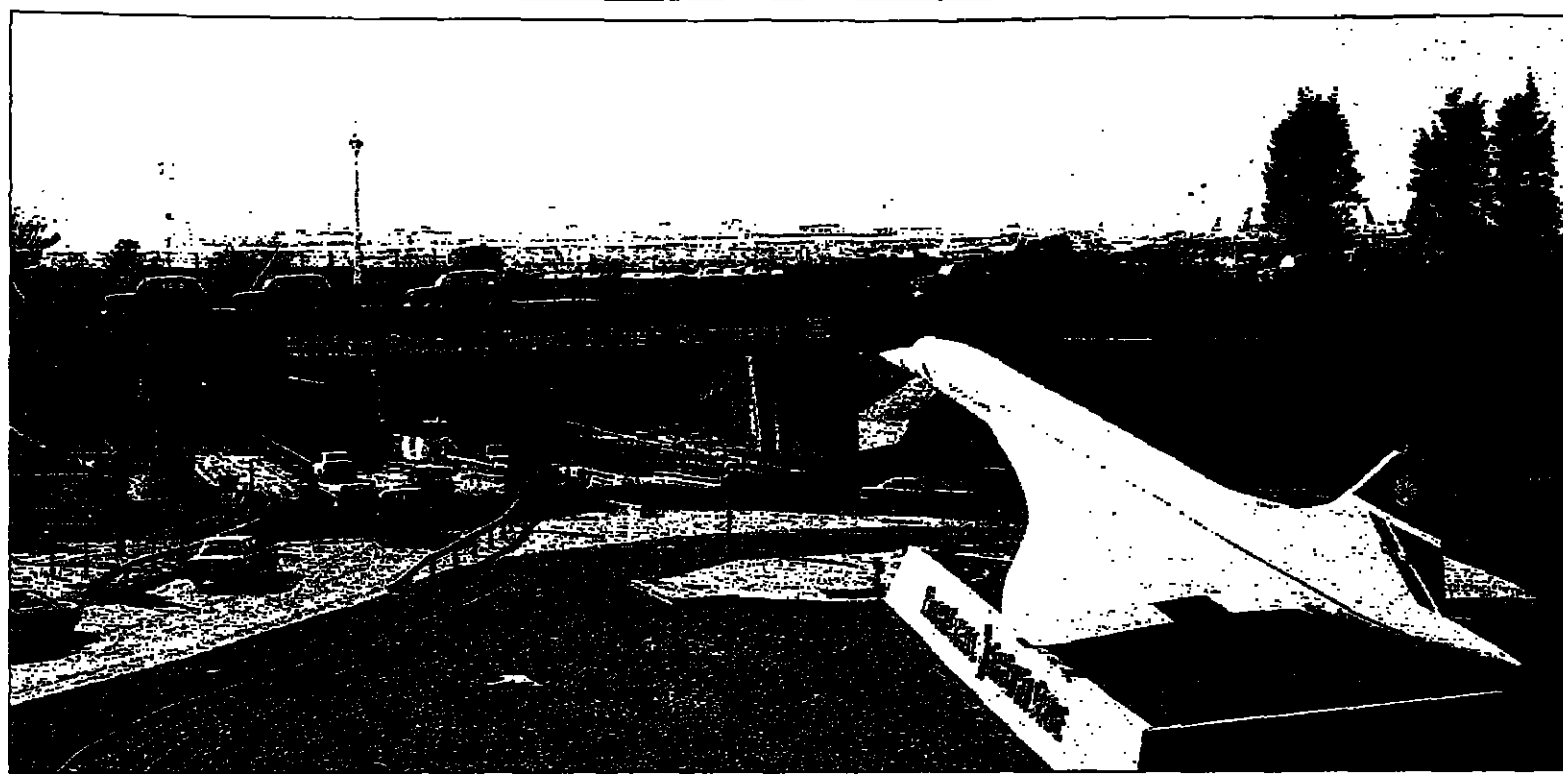
This year has seen European companies return to the relocation market. Among such companies selecting Wales is BOS of Stuttgart and Fiamm of Italy. The former is investing £10 million, creating 100 jobs in Wrexham, while the latter is spending £10.5 million on a manufacturing plant for heavy duty batteries at Crumlin, creating 200 jobs.

IOLA SMITH

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Outer city sites with good connections are attracting investors, says David Crawford



Heathrow has attracted businesses to the counties west of London. Such links are more attractive to many than the prestige of a base in the city

As an economic unit, London extends well beyond its historic core to the M25 and further, influencing the well-being of the South East as a whole. Successful exploitation of the city's high profile benefits outlying areas, too.

Of the success stories logged by the London First Centre (LFC), nearly half have involved sites largely to the west of London where access to Heathrow Airport is a crucial factor. The most important is the relocation of Samsung's European HQ to Hounslow in co-operation with the Hounslow Partnership. Bromley and Croydon are developing similar partnerships.

A number of LFC-brokered moves have been to places in the Home Counties outside Greater London, while the Thames Valley Partnership is working on three potentially promising projects west of the capital. Such initiatives reflect the fact that overseas investors are often more interested in access and communications — links to roads, ports and airports — than in relocating in or near London itself.

Until now the South East, like East Anglia, has lacked a

## Home Counties clear for take-off

Government-assisted regional development organisation (RDO) like those which cover the North and the Midlands. Until the recession, London's hinterland was officially seen as being largely free of the unemployment problems and infrastructural investment needs of other regions, although there have long been blackspots within the apparently affluent Home Counties.

These gaps in the national support network will now be filled, following last week's announcement that RDOs will serve both the South East and the East of England from 1997, with the East likely to be slightly ahead in the race to open shop. This belated initiative undoubtedly owes much to the success of the LFC, which will co-operate with its new neighbour bodies.

### SOUTH EAST

Even without its own RDO, the South East has attracted a good deal of inward investment in recent years. More than 3,000 foreign-owned organisations operate in the region, 1,400 of them manufacturing-based, with the US (as elsewhere) leading the field. Denmark, France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland are also well represented and there are more than 100 Japanese companies.

Surrey, for example, is benefiting from Nokia Telecommunications' recent commitment to a £44 million expansion which will safeguard 300 jobs and create 600 new ones. Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire was the chosen base for Sanyo Energies'

first UK manufacturing plant, set up to make nickel cadmium batteries.

Berkshire and Buckinghamshire are both established centres of high-tech industry, thanks largely to their good motorway and airport connections. Hampshire's strong industrial base was a factor in persuading automotive manufacturer Micron Turbo to commit £15 million to a plant specialising in the design and manufacture of gas turbines.

Kent's "Garden of England" image has been tarnished by severe unemployment blackspots, but now it has taken advantage of enhanced links with mainland Europe to form a cross-Channel economic development with its French counterpart of Nord/Pas de Calais. The county is also bidding strongly to win a

share of the fast-growing international call centre business, which has tended to favour perceived low-cost areas.

Research has shown that Kent can compete surprisingly well in terms of providing higher-quality labour at below national average costs. With 96,500 daily commuters to London available to be wooed to local employment, the county has recently joined forces with the Invest in Britain Bureau and BT in a project aimed at developing an incubator call centre.

Kent is also attracting attention for the South East's first postwar private enterprise new town. Rouse Kent's high-profile King's Hill development near Maidstone has recently won occupancy of the calibre of Rhone-Poulenc Rorer (relocating from Eastbourne for better access to Europe), tissue manufacturer Kimberly-Clark and City market consultancy Hobart Communications.

Telecommunications developments such as ISDN are likely to influence more London businesses to move out to the M25 and beyond.

## It's vroom time where car industry is king

The automotive industry underpins the economy of the West Midlands to a greater extent than any other single industrial sector supports employment and wealth creation in a UK region.

About 75,000 people are directly employed by vehicle manufacturers and component suppliers in the area. Overseas investment by automotive-based companies locating in the West Midlands or through the expansion of existing foreign firms is becoming more influential.

Jaguar, owned by Ford, is investing £400 million at its Castle Bromwich plant to produce a new "baby" executive car. The Rover Group, Britain's biggest car maker and part of BMW since 1994, is to produce a new compact four-wheel-drive utility vehicle at its Land Rover site at Solihull.

Land Rover's new vehicle is expected to support more than 10,000 jobs in the UK's automotive supply sector and inject £3.5 billion into the components industry.

Of the estimated 600 automotive component suppliers in the West Midlands, most of the top 100 are foreign-owned. Among their customers are car-makers in the region and elsewhere in the UK, together with manufacturers of industrial and commercial vehicles, such as the Birmingham-based van maker LDV, and Caribodies at Coventry.

Last month it was announced that Denso Manufacturing, a joint venture between the Denso Corporation of Japan and Magneti Marelli of Italy, would invest £30 million to expand the greenfield site it has occupied in Telford, Shropshire, since 1992.

It produces car air-conditioning and heaters for customers such as Land Rover, Rover, Jaguar, Toyota UK in Derbyshire and Honda at Swindon, Wiltshire.

US car seating companies Johnson Controls and Lear Seating have located in the West Midlands to serve the car

makers: the former at the Black Country Development Corporation's specialist automotive components park and the latter in Coventry.

Hishinuma Machinery, Japan's leading hot chamber die-casting machine manufacturer, has opened its European HQ in the Tipton area of the Black Country, with Honda and Toyota among its customers.

French-owned Sommer Allibert is to invest £15 million at its existing Fradley Park, Staffordshire, site, where it will make dashboards for the new Rover 600 series.

The West Midlands Development Agency has played a lead role in securing the location of the automotive-based inward investors to the region.

During 1995-96 it secured 76 investment projects across numerous industrial sectors worth £840 million. The deals have created 7,000 new jobs and safeguarded a further 4,400.

CRAIG SETON



Rover's production of a new 4x4 vehicle at its Solihull site will support 10,000 jobs

## Agents help to attract US entrepreneurs

The announcement last month that the American-owned K&L Microwave firm will establish a £4.6 million plant in East Yorkshire underlines the importance of the UK's inward investment agencies having their own representation in North America. Craig Seton writes.

Companies from the United States continue to be the UK's largest single source of new inward investment, representing 208 of the 477 such projects during 1995-96, according to the Invest in Britain Bureau.

K&L Microwave's decision to set up a 9,000 sq ft factory in Bridlington followed contacts with the Government-funded Yorkshire and Humberside Development Agency's (YHDA) office in Concord, Massachusetts.

Maryland-based K&L will design and manufacture microwave filters at its UK facility for use in the base stations of civilian and military cellular, telephone and satellite communications systems, creating 170 jobs over five years.

So far this year, the YHDA's office in Massachu-

### AMERICAN INVESTMENT

setts has handled 78 inquiries from US companies considering possible relocation to the region. Sue Crosland, the agency's business development manager for North America in Concord, says: "It is hard to underestimate the value for such companies as K&L in being able to communicate with the agency's representatives quickly and often with face-to-face meetings."

The 250 American-owned

companies that have established facilities in Yorkshire and Humberside, employing 30,000 people, are the region's biggest source of investment from overseas. They include Coca-Cola in Wakefield and Kimberly-Clark at Barton, Humberside.

Other UK agencies also stress the crucial importance of US representation. American-owned Omega Engineering Inc, which is building a European manufacturing facility at Irlam, Manchester, decided on the site after initial contacts with the

Trafford Park Development Corporation's office in St Louis, Missouri.

The US firm manufactures measurement and control components and chose the 26-acre Manchester site after a lengthy selection process involving other potential locations throughout Europe. About 500 jobs will be created over ten years.

Trafford Park has attracted 35 American companies, and its biggest coup this year has been the decision by the electronics company Photonics to build a £47 million European HQ at Wharfedale.

When it comes to relocation, few companies can claim the skills of an estate agent, communications specialist and tax expert in-house. Other factors are the local knowledge necessary to advise staff on schooling in areas around Britain, counselling for families, information on spouse employment and the details involved in moving job and house. That is why many companies call in the specialists.

BP Chemicals handed over administration of all its relocation to agents "because they are the experts who know the housing market and are dealing with it all the time," explains Ian Fyfe, human resources advisor for BP Chemicals based at Grange-mouth. "At first we were nervous of passing on the activity but we found that subcontracting staff relocation is cost-effective."

A survey by PHH Relocation of 300 British businesses who moved their staff in the past year found that one-third sub-contracted the move to

## Moving? Just call in the experts

reduce the administrative burden, while a quarter wanted specialist expertise.

Relocation is a widely accepted way of life for staff in pharmaceutical group Zeneca, where Vanessa Ainsworth, UK relocations officer, uses an agent to handle the routine administration, enabling her department to manage the broader policies and issues. Sub-contracting is cost-effective because it cuts down on turnaround time.

About 100,000-150,000 staff are moved around the country each year by their employers. The sharp drop in office rents in central London has halted the dramatic exodus of companies to cheaper parts of the

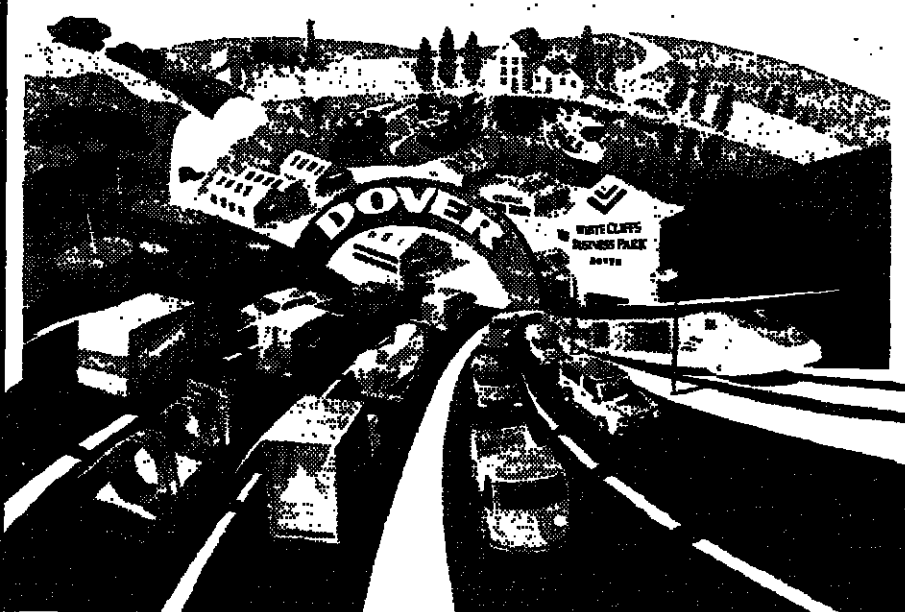
country to reduce costs. An improving economic climate, however, means that organisations need more space for expansion.

Black Horse Relocation recently found that over a fifth of companies surveyed were considering moving within the next five years, mainly because they believed they would outgrow their current premises, but few had yet made the decision. The average time between the decision and the move is four months — so how can companies make the right choice of relocation agent?

Zeneca looked at several agents' checking their experience, how well established they were, and the turnaround time they offered. "Ask for references to establish the quality of the service, and follow them up by talking to past customers," Ms Ainsworth advises. "But the most important criterion is to be able to work together in partnership."

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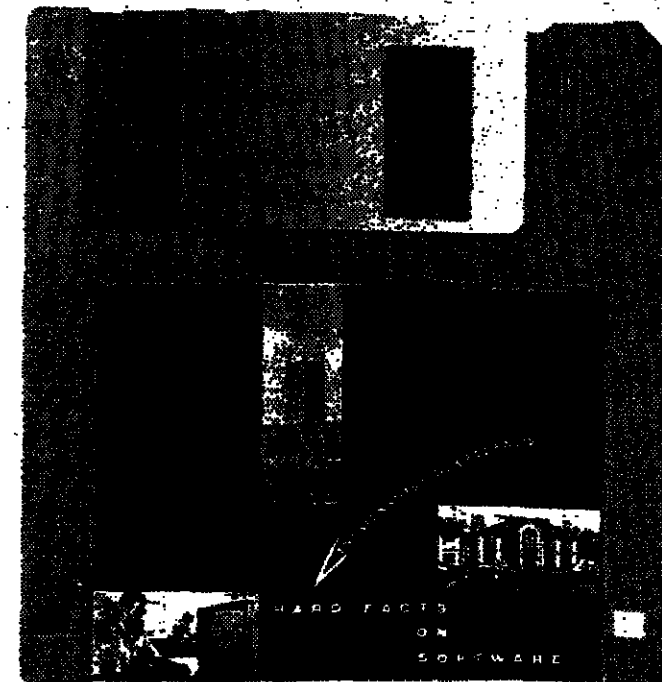
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# LAW

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Although the Children Act is firmly established, there has been criticism of delays



A blueprint for the future: Dame Margaret Booth

## Children still in need

**H**ailed by politicians as the most comprehensive and far-reaching reform of child law in living memory, the Children Act 1989 is now firmly established but is also the subject of increasing criticism.

Since the statute was implemented in October 1991, the most alarming problem has been that of significant delay in the hearing of proceedings. Presumably spurred by the irony that one of the Act's main principles is that delay in determining a child's future is likely to prejudice his or her welfare, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, brought in Dame Margaret Booth, the former Family Division judge, to produce a blueprint for the future.

But the Act has also given rise to other problems, such as difficulty in the relationship between the court and the local authority in public law care proceedings, concerns about the interaction between family and criminal proceedings in child abuse cases and doubts about the child's ability to be heard in cases.

The recent Booth report, *Avoiding Delay*, recognises that hold-ups can occur at all stages of a child case. It identifies a list of major problems: lack of adequate resources; poor administration; lax procedures for transferring cases; problems with proper court control in the preparation of a case; difficulties with joining parties; the instruction of experts; discovery, and assessments; listing

**Allan Levy, QC, assesses the impact of the Children Act five years on and decides that there is work to be done**

problems, and lengthy hearings.

Children's cases take longer under the Act than they previously did. More people — for instance, grandparents and uncles and aunts — can become parties in proceedings, more experts are involved and the issues have become more complex. But there are also countermeasures such as identifying situations where individuals could become witnesses rather than parties; the joint instruction of expert witnesses; and clarifying the issues more fully at an earlier stage.

The reality, though, is that the average disposal time for public law cases — in which the State in the form of the local authority is involved — has been increasing. Last year, on average, cases in family proceedings courts took 27 weeks from the application to the final hearing, an increase of five weeks from the previous year. County court cases took 43 weeks, a rise of six weeks, and High Court cases 52 weeks, a rise of eight weeks. Some cases, therefore, took over a year to complete — an enormous time in a child's life.

There is also concern about private law cases, which usually involve matrimonial and domestic issues. They can be pushed to one side when priority is given to public law and criminal law cases.

The Booth report recognises that one set of rules and procedures cannot deal with the question of delay. Innovation is needed. In particular, the recurring problems require improved interdisciplinary communication, training, judicial management, administration and better procedures for transferring cases. Measures, we are told, are in hand.

Fundamental problems with

**'The most alarming problem has been delay in hearings'**

the Act have arisen out of the relationship of the court and the local authority. Before the Act, the court would still retain jurisdiction after putting a child into the care of the authority. But central to the Act's philosophy is the so-called partnership between the court and the authority which means that, apart from the question of contact with the child, the authority is in charge after the care order is made.

But in the face of a determined authority, the court's decision in the best interest of the child can be ignored: a situation that at least one Court of Appeal judge has described as unfortunate. Similarly, at an interim stage the courts have found themselves unable, against opposition, to direct a local authority to carry out and pay for a residential assessment on a child which may be crucial in deciding the child's future.

A child may be caught up in both Children Act and criminal proceedings arising from, for instance, his or her allegations of abuse. The fact that the welfare of the child is central to the former proceedings and an afterthought in the latter has brought many problems regarding timing, disclosure of local authority files, admissibility of evidence, medical treatment, and balancing the interests of the child and the accused. Happily, these often intractable matters are now receiving the attention they deserve, although some are far from solved.

The voice of the child being heard effectively is central to the Act. There are still concerns over the lack of representation for the child in private as opposed to public law cases, in respect of a too conservative reaction by the courts to allowing applications to be made by children themselves, and to an

overly paternalistic approach to the presence of the child in court.

Other problems are pinpointed in the recent *Report of the national commission into the prevention of child abuse* — the under-resourcing of the Act regarding children "in need" and prevention of abuse, the absence of provisions putting positive responsibilities on parents and obliging them to take account of children's views, and a failure to reflect sufficiently the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**I**n the main, however, the Act is recognised as a success. It has to a great extent simplified, reformed, co-ordinated, integrated and made the courts more user-friendly.

There is still much work to be done and the proposals to disband next July the advisory committee which has monitored its operation since 1991 is one aspect that should be delayed.

● The author, a practising barrister, is a specialist in child law.

Gary Slapper on Parliament and the crime of bribery

## Who should judge corrupt MPs?

**T**wenty years ago this month a letter to *The Times* ignited a portentous debate. It suggested that in relation to allegations of bribery and corruption, MPs, apart from being answerable to Parliament, should be subject to the ordinary criminal law.

The question of whether allegedly errant MPs should be within the sole jurisdiction of the High Court of Parliament has been raised again recently by the cash-for-questions scandal. Now the Law Commission is about to publish a consultative paper, in line with the recommendations of Lord Nolan's Committee on Standards in Public Life, advancing proposals to bring MPs under the same law as other public officials.

In general, MPs are subject to the ordinary criminal law. When they commit crimes, they can be arrested and if they are convicted, the trial judge must inform the Speaker of the Commons, and the MP may be expelled.

It has been widely accepted, however, that in matters of bribery and corruption, only Parliament can adjudicate. There is ample legislation criminalising corruption by members of public bodies, and there is a serious common-law crime of accepting a bribe in public office. But a variety of judicial *obiter dicta* and the 1976 report of the Royal Commission on Standards of Conduct in Public Life have bluntly asserted that MPs cannot be prosecuted for these crimes. Though never settled by the courts, this still holds sway.

The Royal Commission was set up in 1974 in the wake of the Poulson affair which involved corruption in both local government and Westminster. Its report stated that MPs were not within the scope of the legislation primarily because Parliament was not a "public body" as required by the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act 1889. Even more curiously, the report denied that an MP was in a "public office" for the purposes of the common-law crime.

Those who say that allegedly corrupt MPs should be dealt with by Parliament alone usually argue two points. First, *Erskine May* on parliamentary practice can be quoted to contend that corrupt conduct is a breach of privilege, and therefore within the jurisdiction of the Commons. Secondly, Article 9 of the Bill of Rights of 1689 can be adduced to claim that what MPs say and do as part of the parliamentary process cannot be called into question in any law court.

However, the 1889 Act created a crime of corruptly soliciting, or receiving, or agreeing to receive any reward on account of being a member, officer or servant of a public body. The meaning of the term "public body" was extended by the Prevention of Corruption Act

1916 to cover "public authorities of all descriptions". Members of Parliament are paid from the public purse and perform a public duty. It thus seems perverse to insist that the law does not apply to them.

Accepting bribes and breach of trust by public officers are old common-law crimes. The 1976 Royal Commission pronounced that MPs were excluded from this law because their occupation was not a "public office". Again, this proposition is at odds with a normal interpretation of the disputed phrase, and has never been tested by the courts. In deciding related matters, the courts have held that an "office" is a "substantial, permanent, substantive position" which has an existence independent of the person who filled it, and is "filled in succession by successive holders".

These criteria are all satisfied by the position of an MP. As Lord Buckmaster said in 1922, albeit in relation to a different issue, "the real meaning of a public office is an office the payment for which is not provided out of a private fund".

Article 9 of the Bill of Rights states that "the freedom of speech, and debates or proceedings in Parliament, ought not to be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of Parliament". This provision was made to protect MPs from control or pernicious intervention from outside powers. As Lord Salmon has observed, "This is a charter for freedom of speech in the House. It is not a charter for corruption." As the Defamation Act was recently amended at the behest of Neil Hamilton, MP, enabling parliamentary privilege to be waived if an MP so chose in order to bring a defamation action, the sanctity of the privilege has already gone.

Though there is a good case for saying that MPs can already be prosecuted for crimes of corruption, the issue is vexed by a blurred distinction between lawful financial support or consultancy fees from outside bodies and unlawful inducements for the promotion of specific matters in Parliament.

As one Australian judge commented in a 1923 case, the trouble with an MP receiving money from an outside source is that it impairs his capacity to exercise a disinterested judgment on the merits of a public matter from the point of view of the public interest, and makes him a servant of the person who pays him, instead of a representative of the people. Unlike civil servants and local government officials who may not receive any payments in connection with their duties, MPs can accept money and the rules governing this are still disturbingly vague.

● Dr Slapper is Principal Lecturer in Law, Staffordshire University

**'It seems perverse to insist the law does not apply'**

## Equality laws 'have failed'

**O**NE OF the architects of Britain's equality laws — Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC — says they have failed and need "root and branch reform". Lord Lester, a leading equality and human rights lawyer, says that since the Equal Pay Act 1970, the gap between men's and women's pay has "obstinately remained". And the clustering of women in particular types and sectors of employment had also persisted. Last month figures from the Equal Opportunities Commission showed this to be the case.

Women were still paid an hourly average that was 20 per cent less than men's. Part-time female workers earned less than 50 per cent of the pay of men in full-time employment. Lord Lester, who helped to devise the laws, said that though European law — which has paved the way for a number of equal pay rulings — seemed good at first, it had now become too complex. "What is needed is root and branch reform, in which the Community standards are written directly and plainly into UK statutory form," he

told the Employment Lawyers Association last week.

**Pay warning**  
**ARE JUDGES** paid enough? The Lord Chief Justice announced bluntly last week that unless judges were properly paid, their ranks would swell with "second best" candidates and put the independence of the judiciary at risk. Lord Bingham of Cornhill said the maintenance of a strong and independent judiciary depended at least in part on payment of a reasonable salary to en-

sure that the "dispiriting chasm" between the pay of practising lawyers and judges did not become too deep.

His remarks, in the inaugural lecture of the Judicial Studies Board, come as the gap widens between what judges and top lawyers earn. Judicial salaries range from £130,906 for the Lord Chief Justice to £62,018 for district judges.

**World view**  
**ANY** lingering complacency about Arthur Andersen's commitment to building an inter-

national law firm should be dispelled by the latest news emanating from its English law firm, Garrett & Co. The firm has recruited Philip Rutley, the head of European Law at Watson Farley & Williams, to lead its international trade practice.

In addition, the combined forces of Garrett & Co and its associated Scottish firm Dorman Jeffrey & Co contributed £14.9 million in fee income to Arthur Andersen's UK profits of £620 million.

**Law centre**  
**WELL-TRAVELLED** solicitors should find that there is something vaguely familiar about the Law Society's new business centre, which was officially opened by Tony Girling, the President of the Law Society, last week. This is because the centre's main work area is modelled on the first-class business lounges found in most big airports.

The centre, in Chancery Lane, is designed to provide solicitors with a convenient base in central London. It boasts phones, fax machines, computers and eight meeting rooms, which are named after leading legal luminaries, including David Lloyd George and Carrie Morrison, the first woman to be admitted as a solicitor.

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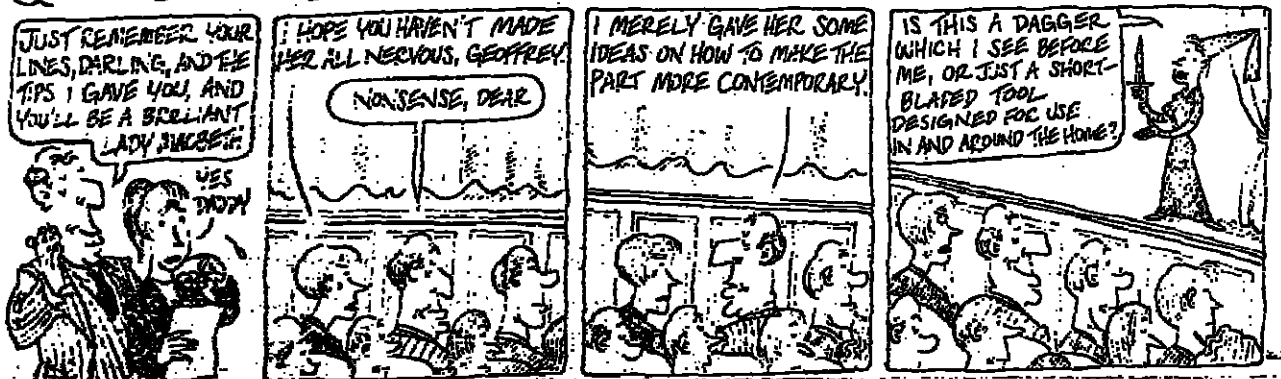
STEUART & FRANCIS

## Judgment at Watford



**BLUNDERING** barristers, bent coppers, dodgy witnesses — not the Crown Courts but a new improvised courtroom comedy, *Court in the Act*, created by Peter Wear (the judge, left). It has its press night at the Palace Theatre, Watford, Hertfordshire, tonight and runs until November 30. The cast conjures up what the blurb calls "a dazzling display of legal inappropriety". Details: 01923 236455.

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## CHAMBERS

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### Salaries in Industry

Our 1996 salary survey of 725 in-house lawyers is now being printed. It shows an average increase this year of 3.5%, less than last year's but in line with the general level of increases in industry.

The average salary for in-house lawyers is £61,224, excluding bonuses. If bonuses, company car and other perks are included, the total is £75,375. (This does not include share option schemes, which we leave out as being too uncertain.)

The highest paid in-house lawyers are the senior legal advisers in their late forties. Their average total remuneration is £115,578. The top ten percent of this group, however, earn considerably more: £216,620 a year.

The lowest paid are the legal assistants in their twenties. Their average remuneration is £36,900. The bottom ten percent of this group earn £25,687.

Of the 725 lawyers surveyed, men constituted four-fifths, and they earn, on average, 12% more than women.

Size of legal department has an interesting effect on earnings. For senior lawyers, the effect is simple: the bigger the department the higher the pay. For junior lawyers, the effect is not dissimilar except that there is a difference between departments up to 10 strong and those above. In the larger departments, salaries are substantially higher. For the middle-ranking lawyers, different principles apply. Salaries actually decline as the department grows in size. Earnings are highest in departments with only two or three lawyers.

Michael Chambers

### INDUSTRY & BANKING Sonya Rayner

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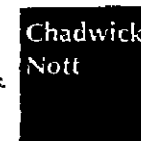
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**■ VISUAL ART 1**  
Fast track to the future: Berlin turns its oldest railway station into a modern-art gallery



**■ VISUAL ART 2**  
Tricks with the perspective: Tony Bevan shows recent paintings at Theo Waddington

## THE TIMES ARTS



**■ VISUAL ART 3**  
Get a head: Ken Currie's new London show takes a medical view of mankind



**■ RECORDING**  
Building a Library surveys the recorded artistry of Dame Joan Sutherland

**VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on Berlin's new museum of modern art; plus painter Ken Currie's latest show**

# Old friends met at the station

Outside the entrance to Berlin's new Museum of Contemporary Art, trains once rode tracks now hidden by a formal garden. For the building itself was once the Hamburger Bahnhof, the city's oldest railway station. Designed by Friedrich Neumann in 1847 but abandoned years ago, this Neo-Classical landmark has undergone a dramatic rebirth. And its opening proclaims Berlin's eagerness to possess, at long last, a contemporary collection of international stature.

The location could hardly be more symbolic. On the other side of the nearby River Spree, the Federal Parliament's new political centre is developing fast. So is the city's grand new station, intended as a focal point for the European express rail network. They ensure that the museum's building, once marooned in a wasteland border area of East Berlin, is now at the heart of the city's post-unification plans for expansion. The renewal of the Hamburger Bahnhof also demonstrates a desire to preserve the past amid all the new construction. But there would be no point in remaining pedantically faithful to the original building in every respect. As you approach the facade, its fresh identity is announced with commendable restraint. Without altering the existing structure, Dan Flavin's specially designed row of seven vertical neon tubes has been added to the central row of arches. Their light blue fluorescence, combined with another installation by Flavin illuminating the open loggia behind with cool green tubes, gives the frontage a discreet, yet festive glow. It looks welcoming, and prepares visitors for the greater theatrical impact of the main hall.

The hall's muscular cast-iron vaulting is superbly energetic. Dark against the pale grey ceiling, its lean geometry seems appropriate for a 20th-century gallery. Everything is kept simple, creating a purged, brilliantly lucid arena where the museum's most spectacular exhibits are given the space they deserve.

Most of the major works are on permanent loan from the extraordinary collection formed by Dr Erich Marx. Without his generosity, the museum would lack the clusters of key images that give its principal spaces their identity. Anselm Kiefer is the first artist to assert his presence. Monumental paintings on the side walls convey his brooding, baleful vision of postwar Germany as a land of blackened, burning fields and empty, ruined buildings eerily redolent of the Fascist past.

Kiefer is a powerful sculptor, too. His battered, outsize books, seemingly salvaged from a catastrophe, rest on steel shelves in the central part of the hall. So does his grounded warplane, left to rot and yet sheltering within its redundant bulk a chamber filled with seeds.

After the rebarbative Kiefer, the rest of the hall provides contemplative calm. Richard Long, one of only four British artists represented in the collection, fills the centre of the floor with a serenely ordered slate circle. Made this year, surely with this location in mind, it is one



The interior of the old Hamburger Bahnhof, the railway building that now houses Berlin's museum of modern art and (below) the green neon-lit loggia, designed by Dan Flavin

of the most impressive Long floor sculptures I have seen. Powerfully evoking a sense of epic distance, it counters geometrical harmony with the brittle, energetic interplay of the fragments within the circle.

The final exhibit in the main part of the hall, a colossal glass igloo by Mario Merz, suffers from its position. This transparent form, punctuated by neon-lit numbers from the Fibonacci series, is invaded by the stronger lines of the monumental window beyond. Ideally, Merz's sculpture needs a plain white space, so that its fine lines remain undisturbed by surrounding distractions.

No such problem affects the grand East Gallery, a new, lofty and top-lit wing devoted to Marx's favourite American painters. The most cherished of all, according to the prime positions his work occupies, is Andy Warhol. At one end of this immense and daunting concourse, a multicoloured image called *Ten Foot Flowers* explodes over a doorway. An even larger portrait of Mao Tse-tung presides at the other. Smiling with apparent benevolence, and yet somehow oddly disdainful, this kingly Chairman provides the collection with its enigmatic deity.

But it is a far less interesting Warhol's media-based and fame-obsessed imagery, he also likes quieter Americans. Nobody could



bought well here, acquiring among others a smeared and gruesome double-image, *Ambulance Disaster*, focused near the centre on an inert passenger hanging out of the window. The finest is more restrained: the coal-black *Twenty Jackies*, based on a celebrated close-up of the blanching, dignified widow at Jack Kennedy's funeral. The relentless multiplication of her stoical face reduces her grief through numbing repetition and at the same time hammers home her pain.

If Marx responds strongly to Warhol's media-based and fame-obsessed imagery, he also likes quieter Americans. Nobody could

be more elusive than Cy Twombly, whose 1955 *Free Wheeler* is covered with spidery lines. They look like multi-layered scrawlings on a city wall, faded and yet still retaining an unpredictable vivacity. Colour and brushstrokes gradually invade Twombly's subsequent paintings, dispersed and hesitant in *Empire of Flora* but as red as bloodstains in a splashed, headlong oil of 1986.

In this respect, the later Twombly chimes with early Robert Rauschenberg on the opposite wall, above all in the latter's powerful 1954 *Pink Door*. But Rauschenberg's more recent work has become disappointingly tasteless; he has been unable to sustain his youthful

strength as well as Roy Lichtenstein, whose latest variations on Picasso look almost as lean and raw as his 1963 version of *Woman in an Armchair*, where Picasso's comic-book leanings are pushed to a provocative extreme.

Beyond the East Gallery, the museum divides into smaller rooms. Thomas Struth stands out in a space full of photographs, especially his sumptuous recent interior view of San Zaccaria in Venice. At its heart hangs Bellini's consummate late altarpiece, in a miraculous state of preservation. But Struth ensures that the surrounding frescoes, and the nearby nave, all contribute to the photograph's sense of luminous, hushed wonder.

By no means all the artists here emerge with their reputations enhanced. A room given over to Keith Haring's zany, graffiti-like paintings looks lightweight and formulaic, while a big gallery at the top of the main stairs contains a very uneven selection of the boisterous painters who made their reputations in the early 1980s. Sandro Chia seems clumsy, Rainer Fetting vapid and Julian Schnabel hamfisted. Surrounded by their overblown canvases, Anish Kapoor's red-pigment floor sculpture appears embarrased. His five-piece

1000 Names glows with sensuousness and spirituality alike. But Kapoor's work needs a room of its own in order to thrive.

Most of the potent moments in the labyrinth of upstairs rooms, which become confusing to explore, occur when a single artist is given space to breathe. Rachel Whiteread's two sculptures look impressive, even though they are bordered on one side by Maria Eichhorn's deeply folded grey curtain. So does Bill Viola, whose 1976 video installation *He Weeps For You* manages to be funny and mournful at the same time. Another video work, Gary Hill's *Crux*, performs a similar, fragrant feat as the cameras follow his stumbling, martyred movements through a wood.

Both these video works were purchased by the Berlin National Gallery, and a number of its other acquisitions can be found throughout the building. Nevertheless, the overall character of the museum is dictated by Marx's holdings. He owns many of the major pieces in the wing where Joseph Beuys is given a reverential place of honour. The full range of his work, from blackboards and felt to steel and stone, confirms the shaman-like position he occupies in postwar German art.

● The Hamburger Bahnhof (030 30 78300) is at Invalidenstrasse 50/51, Berlin

## AROUND THE GALLERIES

A SERIES of stark *Head and Neck* paintings by Tony Bevan downstairs at Theo Waddington are complemented by architectural works in which people do not feature. Huge paintings or drawings of institutional corridors lead away from the wall surface perspective down the "hall". The eye is drawn along the corridor in a subtly extended illusion.

Bevan mixes painting with drawing in a particular manner. He works charcoal into the canvas surface and uses acrylic paint to make an echoing stain.

Tony Bevan Recent Paintings. Theo Waddington, 5a Cork Street, London W1 (0171-494 1584) until Nov 16

□ A SPARE and subtle exhibition at City Racing extends back in time to an arrangement of neatly repacked collapsed cardboard boxes made by Gustav Metzger in 1959. The empty boxes are filled again by folded versions of themselves; they seem to have been organised by an industrious shop assistant. Barry Flanagan's piece from 1966, a pile of fine gold sand poured onto the floor in an interrupted flow, has been frozen in a heap, with a collapsing peak like a volcano's.

Another room shows three apparently "useful" sculptural objects from 1974 by Tim Mapson. A row of flat *Leaning Boards* can be leant against, while the two wall sculptures — like the row of upside-down cinema seats — also have an independent logic.

Made New, City Racing, 60 Oval Mansions, Vauxhall St, London SE11 (0171-582 3940) until Nov 17

□ THE mixed show can be a mixed affair; any obvious rationale may down individual art, and vice versa. *Fall*, the first painting exhibition in a relatively new gallery, seems to lack elaborate justification. Derrick Haughon's small short squiggles of paint appear to wriggle their way across the sometimes pearly surface. Two and three dimensions play around with each other here. Ed Chell uses the implication of a repeated blur to conjure up a sense of lost detail: historical photographs of blasted landscape or broken city appear to be just out of visual control.

Eugene Palmer paints the same photograph of the same man until heavy horn-rimmed glasses, mouth, eyes and tie shift and change slightly in a visual Chinese whiplash. Kathleen Mullaniff shows a neat, well-lit series of back-to-front stencil panels in which creamy paint has been forced through popular lace or tablecloth patterns.

Fall, Bedford Hill Gallery, 202 Great Suffolk St, London SE1 (0171-403 4190) until Nov 30

SACHA CRADDOCK

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## From Mantegna to Picasso

Drawings from the 'The Troubled City' series by Ken Currie, 10am-6pm daily

including work by: Rembrandt, Canaletto, Goya, Turner, Degas, Cézanne, Renoir, Gauguin and Matisse

KEN CURRIE's work is characterised by his socialist convictions. His paintings, gnarled by a gritty vein of social realism, have been concerned with the portrayal of the history of the Scottish working class, the abominations of the Holocaust and the aftermath of revolution in Eastern Europe. The subject of such earlier paintings as *The Troubled City* (1991), *The Street* (1990) or *Life Grows Harder* (1988), is the allegorical message rather than the figures which convey it. The human figure has been less a convincing presence than an element of formal design. But now, in this new show, Currie turns away from complex narrative compositions to focus simply on the human head, on the emotional and intellectual depths that a portrait can convey.

There is an almost medical objectivity in Currie's presentation of his subject. It is the notion of injury as it exposes and reflects the increasing violence of modern society



Ken Currie's *The Messenger* (1996)

which he is concerned to confront. The pallor of wounded faces seeping into darkness, mouths searing with withering skin, eyes gleaming wetly in shadowed sockets, all evoke a visceral response in the viewer. Currie takes an unflinching look at the effects of violence on bone, flesh and blood.

Yet there is a chill beauty in his work, too. Portraits which might have seemed little more

than crude representations of angst or pain are given a seductive ethereality by Currie's technical mastery as he builds up whisper-thin layers of lambent glazes. Blood glimmers against silky pale flesh. Currie aims to portray what he calls "a pornography of wounds".

But it is in their intimacy that these canvases attain their greatest power. "I think now that the ideal audience for my paintings is one person," Currie says. "I want the viewer who looks at a work like *The Diarist* to contemplate and try to understand what sort of this damaged figure could have written." Currie's socialist message remains undimmed. He takes as his motto for his show the old trade union slogan: an injury to one is an injury to all.

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

● Ken Currie is at the Raab Boukamel Gallery, 9 Cork Street, London W1 (0171-387 1740) until Dec 23

## Head-on collision with violent society

The best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

A JOAN SUTHERLAND SURVEY  
Reviewed by Patrick O'Connor

SUTHERLAND shot to fame with Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* at Covent Garden in 1959. She subsequently recorded the role twice. The first version (1961), conducted by Sir John Pritchard, is on two mid-price CDs in Decca's Grand Opera Series (Decca 411 622-2); the second is on three full-price discs (Decca 410 193-2). Sutherland is in wonderfully fluid voice for the earlier one, but the 1971 recording under Richard Borynge is the more satisfying. Of Sutherland's other Donizetti recordings, it is difficult to imagine the 1967 *La Fille du Régiment* (Decca 414 520-2) ever being surpassed.

Sutherland recorded three of Bellini's operas twice: *La Sonnambula*, *I Puritani* and *Norma*. Of the *Sonnambulas*, the earlier, 1962 recording, which has just been reissued, on the Grand Opera Series (448 966-2), is preferable to the later version. With *Puritani* it's the other way around. The 1963 set, although it has Sutherland in great form, is surpassed by the 1973 recording, with Sutherland and Pavarotti at the peak of their partnership (Decca 437 588-2). Of the *Normas*, the earlier one



with Marilyn Horne as Adalgisa is preferable. No reservations whatsoever about Sutherland's other great showpiece in which she and Horne match each other's virtuosity: Rossini's *Semiramide* (Decca 425 481-2), a classic set which has held its own for 30 years. This pointed the way towards Sutherland's

● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (1pm): Mozart's *Divertimento*

return to more dramatic parts, including Puccini's *Turandot* (Decca 414 275-2), conducted by Zubin Mehta.

In the French repertoire, three sets are outstanding: Massenet's *Esclarmonte* (Decca 425 651-2), Meyerbeer's *Les Huguenots* (Decca 490 549-2), perhaps the most important of Borynge's records, and Offenbach's *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (Decca 417 363-2), in which Sutherland and Domingo make it the most satisfying Hoffmann on record.

Despite Sutherland's great achievements in Italian opera, three French works head my shortlist: *La Fille du Régiment*, *Esclarmonte* and, top, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*.

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**THEATRE**  
Soliloquies my father taught me: Lynn Redgrave prepares for a show of family memories



**MUSIC**  
Michael Tilson Thomas breezes into London with the San Francisco Symphony

# THE TIMES ARTS



**JAZZ**  
John Harle's eclecticism seemed better in theory than in practice at the Festival Hall



**TOMORROW**  
Can Cameron Mackintosh rescue Martin Guerre? Read the verdict of Benedict Nightingale

## Tilting at tradition

THE jazz festival is dead; long live the "jazz" festival. In an era when the ranks of musicians capable of drawing a full house in the concert hall grow thinner each year, it makes economic and artistic sense to reassess the traditional categories.

The organisers of this year's London Festival deserve credit for reaching out to new audiences without opting for bland, populist fusion acts. On the opening weekend John Harle's performance at the Festival Hall took eclecticism to its very limits. The themes on the classical saxophonist's new crossover album — given the grandiose

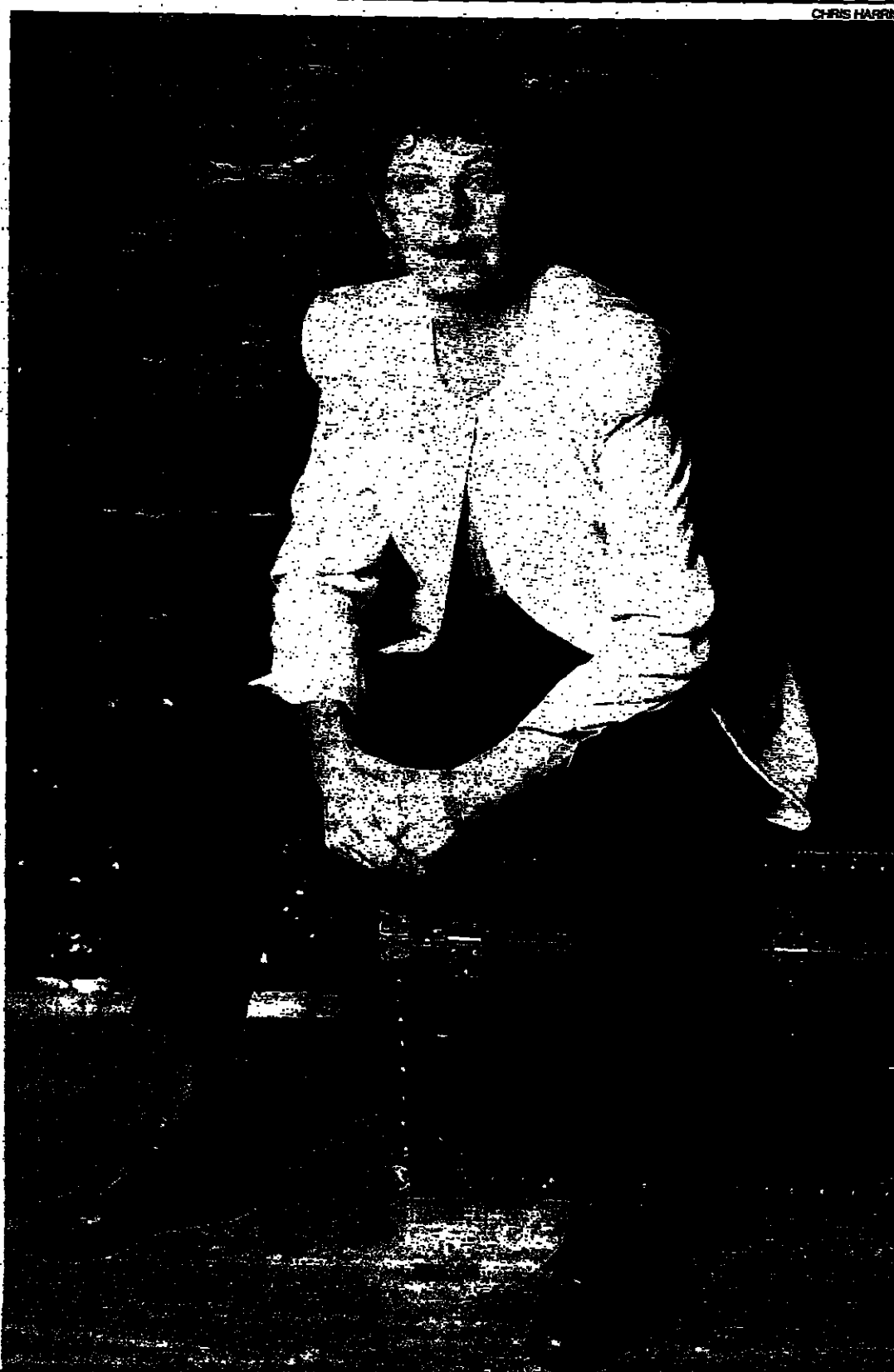
John Harle  
Oris Jazz Festival

title *Terror and Magnificence* — reflect a quixotic attempt to marry skeletal improvisation and Nymman-esque string arrangements, jazz and ecclesiastical modes and a sprinkling of Renaissance and medieval texts. Harle's ambitions are so noble that it seems distasteful not to be swept along by them. In truth, though, the theory outstripped the execution.

There remained moments to savour. The soprano Sarah Leonard, whose wordless vocals evoked Michael Nyman's Heysel Stadium memorial at the QEH this summer, brought a stately purity to the Tudor lyrics of *The Three Ravens*. Elvis Costello's voice, much less distinct, evoked a rough-hewn honesty in *Mistress Mine*, three Harle settings originally written for a Nottingham Playhouse production of *Twelfth Night*.

Harle has ample experience as a composer for the screen and stage. That, perhaps, explained the shortcomings of this concert: most of the pieces failed to rise above the level of tasteful incidental music. *Terror and Magnificence* was one of several compositions undermined by bland string figures more reminiscent of the Penguin Café Orchestra.

CLIVE DAVIS



Lynn Redgrave: "Nothing was expected of me, which can make you think you can't do anything"

## A voyage round Lynn's father

THEATRE: Carol Allen meets the youngest of the three Redgrave siblings on the eve of her West End opening

Lynn Redgrave may be the youngest of Sir Michael's three children, but she is usually perceived as the sensible, practical one. Next April she celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of her marriage to John Clark, a former British child star, best remembered for playing radio's *Just William* in the Forties, and director of her one-woman show *Shakespeare For My Father*, which opens at the Haymarket Theatre tomorrow. The play, written by Redgrave, is a personal reminiscence of herself and her career, using Shakespeare to illustrate her emotions, rather like, as she puts it, the "old-fashioned book musicals, when a scene reached a certain point you had to break into song."

The Haymarket is the theatre where Redgrave made her West End debut in 1962 with Celia Johnson and John Clements in *The Tulip Tree*. This week also marks her first appearance on the London stage since she played with sister Vanessa and niece Jenna in *The Three Sisters* six years ago. Since 1974 Lynn Redgrave and her husband have lived in America, where she works mainly in television and theatre.

Like Vanessa and Corin, Lynn has inherited her father's height; but far from the plump and awkward Georgy Girl of the Sixties, Lynn Redgrave today is a sleek and elegant woman of 53, with an open, friendly manner, who gives the impression of being in charge not only of her body but of her life. Perhaps that is why she has the confidence to go on stage and reveal the insecurities of the child she once was and her feelings about the father whom she remembers as a remote and rather frightening figure.

"Perhaps it was because I was the youngest, or because of whatever was going on in his life at the time, but in my presence he wore

this blank mask and as a child that was of course quite terrifying because you couldn't tell. Was he cross, was he sad, was he pleased, was he thinking, was he listening? Then I would go and see him on the stage. He was the most brilliant, chameleon actor in that physically he changed completely according to the role. So out would walk, say, Richard II and I would think, if I could just get down on the stage and get close enough and touch him, I'd find Dad. It was only when I matured and he was declining with Parkinson's that I could talk to him, although still not with him."

6 In my presence my dad wore a terrifying blank mask

Redgrave made her acting mark in comedy, as the funny and touching star of *Georgy Girl*, and later with the National Theatre at the Old Vic in such plays as *The Recruiting Officer* and *Hay Fever*.

"When I was starting my idol was Giulietta Masina in *La strada*. I saw myself as the clown with the soul, and in a way I still am. I have this theory that a lot of third children turn to comedy. Maybe it's our only way to be heard."

"I suppose in simple terms Vanessa and Corin were the ones of whom all things were expected and I was the one of whom nothing was expected, which can be a bonus but can make you think it's because you can't do anything. Certainly when Dad was ill and I would come over from America to see him, I would come off the plane full of comedy."

almost like the jester. I'm good at telling stories, but even as a middle-aged woman I was terrified of the silence falling, because the silences brought me right back to the old me and my fear of him."

In her play Redgrave makes oblique reference to her father's bisexuality. "I didn't know until I was married. Maybe I was naive, maybe I didn't want to know. When I found out, of course, suddenly things made sense about my mother and him and I felt a terrific sympathy for his having to keep it secret."

While she is in London *Shine*, Redgrave's first film for several years, will be shown in the London Film Festival before opening in January. *Shine* tells the real-life story of the Australian pianist David Helfgott, an eccentric, child-like genius who suffered a nervous breakdown when a student at the Royal College of Music, returned to Australia and obscurity, and then reclaimed his career in his late thirties through the support of his new wife Gillian, the role played by Redgrave in the film.

It is tempting to wonder what Sir Michael would have thought about *Shakespeare For My Father*. So far the only members of the family who have seen it are his widow, Rachel Kempson, and Vanessa.

"My sister said it gave her a window into me that she never knew and through that into Dad and Mum as well. Mum finds it very cathartic; she loves it. She laughs a lot and she cries a lot."

"There is nothing hurtful in the play. People who knew Dad say he would have loved it. I think he'd be sitting there with a big smile on his face and tears rolling down. He wouldn't have known that I had this in me, nor could he ever have known how sad I felt for him."

Shakespeare For My Father opens at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800) tomorrow

CONCERTS: Fanfare from the West Coast, and a brave Beethoven cycle

## Loud colours from America

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS made a swashbuckling return to London on Sunday, but this time with the San Francisco Symphony of which he has been music director since September 1995. Part of their first European tour together, this concert presented a loud and colourful portfolio of their recent recording work which has focused on Prokofiev and on American repertoire, including the early works of Aaron Copland.

Copland's *Symphonic Ode*, written when the composer was 28, is eager, shamelessly imitative, and fearlessly self-proclaiming. The orchestra-

tion of Mahler, the sharp, shifting angles of Stravinskian rhythm, the showmanship of jazz: it is all there, peeling out in a long carillon of exuberant orchestral virtuosity.

The *Ode* was matched, across the interval, by Lou Harrison's *Parade*, a five-minute fanfare written by the San Francisco composer to signal the start of Tilson Thomas's reign with the orchestra. It immediately conjures up the hedonistic eclecticism of a Hong Kong Chinese orchestra and does, in fact, recreate the composer's youthful memories of a San Francisco parade march, complete with Chinese hip-borne

San Francisco Symphony/  
Tilson Thomas  
Barbican

bell-lyras. Harrison's own orchestral parade also boasts oxygen-tank bells, ranch triangles, a Balinese bell-tree and a large Japanese gong. At this point, Debussy's *La Mer*, just before the interval, seemed little more than a faint echo in a sea-shell; though at the time it had been a vividly colourful performance, with violins bright as phosphores-

cence in the first section, and brass gusting to gale force in the last.

The evening's grand finale was Prokofiev's music from the ballet *Romeo and Juliet*. In a performance which tended to show off the orchestra rather than the subtleties of the score, the curtain rose on a sweeping upbeat; hard-edged brass and fearlessly articulated strings whipped up conflict; Mercutio pranced forward as a swaggering wide boy; and the balcony scene expanded to the dimensions of a vast silver screen.

HILARY FINCH

## Perl's weighty wisdom

Alfredo  
Perl  
Wigmore Hall

ANY complete cycle of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas is a brave undertaking, but Alfredo Perl's series at the Wigmore Hall is more audacious than most. Still in his early thirties, this Chilean pianist is competing in a very crowded market: several of today's leading players are currently engaged on their own Beethoven cycles, and while many are presenting the same programme in all the world's musical centres before repeating the circuit with another handful of works, Perl is to play them all in London by the end of January. He and the sonatas move on to Moscow in the spring.

It is bold, too, of the Wigmore Hall to back his series, though his second recital confirmed that he can conjure up the real Beethovenian sound of tradition. His playing is weighty, dark-hued in the lower reaches of the keyboard and crisp at the top. But there was a sameness about each of the four sonatas we heard on Tuesday, as if Perl was insensitive to the very different "personality" of each.

He was least successful in the early sonata, No 3 in C, with which he opened. The

first movement burst out in an over-pedalled blur, and though his eloquent adagio and fiery finale had better balance, his playing lacked the freshness and clarity the notes demand. The performance pointed strongly towards middle or late-period Beethoven, making interesting connections which the music does not quite support.

Not surprisingly, the mature works fared better. Perl caught the ambiguities of the Sonata No 15 in D (*Pastorale*) with hushed lyricism in the first movement, a thoughtful andante and witty scherzo. His approach to No 16 in G was bold and enjoyable, and he allowed the long adagio to unfold naturally. In the great *Les Adieux*, No 26 in E flat, he produced a very satisfying mix of poise and passion; the tumultuous finale, true to its extraordinary "Vivacissimamente" marking, suggested that Perl will be most rewarding in the grander sonatas.

JOHN ALLISON

THE TIMES

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- THE STRANGLERS *Always The Sun*
- MANIC STREET PREACHERS *From Despair To Where*
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CHANGING TIMES

"HOT FROM BROADWAY, AND I MEAN SMOKIN' ENOUGH ENERGY TO ELECTRIFY A CITY"

Smokin' Joe's Cafe

THE GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL

"FRESH AND SEXY TOUGH AND TRUE"

"DAZZLING... SHEER BROADWAY"







# Collier Bay to relish champion role

1 Sergio	1	On	15.4	J Supply	10	66	14.2
Darryl Smith	14	91					



Legendary leader's influence on team-mates marked him out for footballing glory

# Fearless tactician with gift of the gab

Harry Gregg, post-Munich hero of Manchester United, had played his first international for Northern Ireland against Wales at Wrexham. It had been a daunting experience, fresh out of Doncaster Rovers reserves, before Matt Busby signed him for the then record £24,000 for a goalkeeper. The legendary John Charles, a sledgehammer in the air, was to play centre forward for Wales rather than centre half.

Danny Blanchflower had a quiet word beforehand with his big, raw young goalkeeper. "Don't worry, son, you'll get everything. And when you do, just throw it out to the right. I'll be there."

Gregg did. Blanchflower was, it was a turning-point in the youngster's career. Another came during Northern Ireland's celebrated run in the 1958 World Cup. Gregg, still maturing, tended to be quick-tempered, to sense any slight. Again Blanchflower, already 32 but still three years away from what would be the pinnacle of his career as captain of Tottenham Hotspur's double-winning team, took Gregg to one side.

"You don't need to fight people any more," Blanchflower said. "You're the king. Everyone respects you." They were tough, private words, hard to take, but they found their target. "Danny gave me what I couldn't give to myself," Gregg reflected in retirement.

I have no doubt that Blanchflower was the most intelligent and influential captain, among his colleagues, in the history of his game: far beyond the great figurehead England captains such as Cullis, Wright and Bobby Moore. No British club captain has exercised such understanding of either the game or of players. It was no surprise that Bill Nicholson vainly attempted, Liverpool-fashion, to make Blanchflower his successor as manager in 1974.

On one occasion, Peter McParland, the goalscorer left winger for Aston Villa in the 1957 FA Cup Final and subsequently spectacular scorer in the World Cup, was lying

David Miller continues our series on great captains by recalling the wise words of the late Danny Blanchflower, whose intelligent leadership and skilful football helped Tottenham to the Double and Northern Ireland to the World Cup quarter-finals



THE GREAT CAPTAINS

injured at Windsor Park, Belfast. It used to be common parlance that wingers are not fashioned upon the anvil of the game. McParland received the attentions of the sponge-man. Blanchflower patted him encouragingly on the shoulder. "Just go out on the wing, for a rest," he quipped. McParland quickly forgot his pain.

Signed by Arthur Rowe from Villa in 1954 to replace Nicholson at right half in Tottenham's now fading league championship-winning team, Blanchflower was made captain by Jimmy Anderson. Rowe's successor. He was the first, a revolutionary at the time, to change players' positions during a match. Losing 3-1 to York City in the FA Cup sixth round, he sent Maurice Norman from centre half into attack. Tottenham drew and won the replay. He did the same against Manchester City in the semi-final. Tottenham lost 1-0; the club's directors were furious.

Captaining a Great Britain XI against Europe at Windsor Park, Blanchflower switched John Charles from centre half to centre forward when 2-1

down. Europe scored twice more. Walter Winterbottom, the England manager who was in charge of the Britain team, complained bitterly back at the dressing-room. Blanchflower responded: "What does it matter whether we lose by one goal or three? We were doing something positive."

He defended his authority to act at Tottenham and did so again, pushing forward Tony March when Tottenham were

threatened with relegation in 1958. Anderson dropped him. After being voted footballer of the year in 1958, Nicholson, now manager, restored him as captain the next season. Blanchflower was already privately predicting that they could win the Double with such players as Mackay, White, Cliff Jones and Medwin.

"He had imagination," Nicholson recalled. He perceived what was happening in a game and provided answers. He was an able captain because he could communicate so well."

Typically, Blanchflower was a supporter of Jimmy Greaves's attacking tactical

freedom. When White, arch creator, moaned during a match against Burnley that Greaves was doing no work in midfield, Blanchflower retorted: "When you score 30 goals a season, you can go and stand up there with him."

In a pre-match talk before playing England, Peter Doherty, the Northern Ireland manager, told Bertie Peacock, the Celtic wing half, to stick close to Greaves. "Don't bother," Blanchflower said. "Jimmy will still score. Every Saturday some wing half tries to stop him and fails. You're better doing your own constructive thing for us." Northern Ireland drew.

Blanchflower was innovative, positive, always fair. "He never kicked anyone," Gregg recalled, "and he always wanted the ball. He never hid." When Doherty once advocated to Northern Ireland defenders bringing down an opponent as a last resort, Blanchflower was indignant. "That's a sin," he insisted, "you have to play by the rules."

When Northern Ireland memorably beat England 2-2 at Wembley in 1957, Winterbottom, interviewed afterwards, said he thought that Ireland had been lucky. Blanchflower, standing with him, quipped: "If that's luck, I'd rather be a lucky team than a good team."

Blanchflower's upbeat team talks were something special. Going with Doherty to watch the former West Germany, the defending world champions, before the Northern Ireland match against them in 1958, they were both in awe. "A great team," Doherty said afterwards.

"Right," Blanchflower said, "when we get back to the camp, we just say they can't play." With Blanchflower, Jimmy McIlroy and Peacock supreme in midfield, Northern Ireland drew 2-2 and went on to reach the quarter-finals.

When Tottenham's Double team, plus Greaves, became the first English club to reach a European final, the Cup Winners' Cup against Atletico Madrid in 1963, Nicholson's pep talk was sombre. Characteristically, he warned his men



Blanchflower lifts the FA Cup after Tottenham's win over Leicester in their Double season

of Atletico's many attributes. When he had finished, Blanchflower, now 37 and only a few weeks back from a cartilage operation, swept aside the pessimism.

"If their centre half is big and ugly, then ours," — and he glanced at Norman, then the England centre half — "is even bigger and uglier." And so on, right through the Tottenham

team, making them laugh, lifting their confidence. Tottenham won triumphantly.

Blanchflower was everyone's mentor: mine as a young journalist. He believed, above all, that the game is first about glory, much more than winning. It is a precious philosophy, long abandoned.

Against Poland in a World Cup tie, Blanchflower con-

trived something never seen before or since. In the event of a penalty, which they did get, McIlroy was to tap the ball sideways and Blanchflower would then dribble round the goalkeeper. This they did. An astonished referee unnecessarily made them take it again. McIlroy scored. It personalized Blanchflower's unique thinking.

'He was always fair. He never hid'

TOMORROW

John Woodcock makes his choice of the best leader to step onto a cricket pitch

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This hand led to a big swing when an imaginative lead scored heavily against the more pedestrian one found at the other table.

Dealer North	North-South game	IMPs
♠ AKJ93 ♥ K864 ♦ AQ ♣ KQ	♠ N ♥ W ♦ E ♣ S	+2 +102 +106432 +10964
♠ 854 ♥ 75 ♦ K987 ♣ A87	♠ 107 ♥ AQJ973 ♦ 45 ♣ 532	
W Pass	N 2NT 4NT 6H Pass	E Pass Pass All pass
S	5D	

Contract: Six Hearts by South. Lead: five of spades

I think it is better to open Two Clubs or 2NT on the North hand. After the spade lead declarer put up dummy's ace, drew trumps, and led a second spade to the king. When he saw that no long spade could be established he had to fall back on the diamond finesse and this gave him the slam. It all looked perfectly routine but at the other table, after exactly the same bidding, West led the nine of diamonds. Not knowing that the spades were breaking 5-1, declarer put up the ace of diamonds, drew just one round of trumps with the ace (he would have needed three entries to dummy to enjoy a long spade if the suit had broken 4-2), and played off two top spades. East ruffed and South was two down.

There was a sound reason for the diamond lead. West knew that one of the main suits, spades, was going to break badly for declarer. That made it a good policy to present South with an early decision in diamonds. It was certain that he would refuse the finesse if all he needed was a reasonable break in another suit.

RESULTS. Saga pairs: 1. J. Aiper and U. Jacobson; 2. G. Faulkner and K. Stanley; 3. S. Stanford and P. Chavannez; Swiss pairs: 1. D. Griffiths and T. Odams; Swiss teams: 1. J. Monaghan, B. Rowlands, M. Hurst and B. Goldenfeldt.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GRAMINIVOROUS  
a. Huge, mighty  
b. Sarcastic  
c. Grass-eating

STEGOPHILIST  
a. A collector of beermats  
b. A nudist  
c. A climber of buildings

DEFENESTRATION  
a. Breaking windows  
b. Breaking wind  
c. Throwing from a great height  
SUGGILLATE  
a. To tempt  
b. To lambast  
c. An ecclesiastical substitute

Answers on page 50

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Reading chess moves

As more and more readers turn to The Times, I have decided to review the method by which the games and chess puzzles in this column can be read. The system we use is simplified modern notation and it is very easy to learn. Readers who are comparatively new to the game, or who have only learned the older "English Descriptive" notation, will find what follows helpful.

In writing down the moves, each piece is represented by a letter as follows except for the pawns where no special symbol is used. Knight: N; Bishop: B; Rook: R; Queen: Q; King: K.

The squares on the chessboard are described by co-ordinates, consisting of a letter followed by a number (see diagram). For instance in the final position of the game, White's king is on the square called "g1". This follows exactly the same principle as reading a reference on an A-Z street guide or road map. Everybody can pick this up easily.

Whenever a piece moves, the initial letter of that piece appears at the start of the move. For example, White's fourth move in the following game shows that a knight (N) moves to the square d5. When a pawn moves, only the square on which it arrives, when the move is completed, is mentioned. A perfect example is White's first move 1 d4 (white pawn goes to d4) in the game which follows and Black's second move 2... e5 (black pawn goes to e5). Captures are denoted by an "x". Thus White's third move in the game, 3 dxe5, shows that White's pawn on the d-file captures on e5. Note that check is always denoted by a "+".

The following win by Alekhine demonstrates the principles of simplified modern notation perfectly, but an important point to note is White's possibility of the en passant capture on move 24. Although Black's pawn on b7

moves directly to b5, White can, on the next move only, avail himself of the opportunity to capture on b5. This Alekhine promptly does.

White: Alexander Alekhine  
Black: Savielly Tartakower  
London 1932

Budapest Counter-Gambit		
1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e5
3	dxe5	Ne4
4	Nd2	Nc5
5	Ng3	Qc6
6	g3	Oe7
7	Bg2	g6
8	Nb1	Nhe5
9	O-O	Nf5+
10	e3	Bg7
11	Re1	Nd6
12	Nc3	O-O
13	Nd5	Qd8
14	Id	c5
15	Nc3	d6
16	Be2	Qc7
17	Rc1	Bd7
18	Qc2	Rac8







TENNIS: RUSEDSKI'S RECENT FORM GIVES HIM REALISTIC CHANCE OF TOPPLING RIVAL AT TELFORD

# Henman needs to find Sunday best

IF IT IS November, it must be Telford. At the end of a long hard season, the best that Britain can muster gather to sample the murky delights of the Telford International Centre to sort out the pecking order of British tennis.

Over the years, it has been a depressing affair, but now, for the first time since 1978 and the days of John Lloyd and Buster Mottram, Britain has two men in the top 50 of the world rankings. If all goes according to plan, Telford promises an interesting showdown between Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski come the final on Sunday.

For most of the year, Henman has been the centre of attention, as he has climbed the rankings from No 95 at the

end of last year to a career-high of No 25 a couple of weeks ago. Since then, he has slipped slightly to No 27, but Henman's place as torch-bearer of British hopes for the future is assured.

Henman's meteoric rise has been stirring stuff for the public, who for years have been waiting patiently for the emergence of a potential champion. His success, initially at least, was helped by a break, because of injury, at the end of 1994 and a slow start to 1995.

At the beginning of this year, he had no points to defend on the ATP ranking computer and the only way was up. As his ranking has risen, so he has gained direct entry into the big events for the

## Alix Ramsay looks ahead to the probable encounter between Britain's leading men

first time, adding to his points tally and his bank balance.

Henman has made the most of his chances but it has been a long haul. Telford will be his 25th tournament, not counting his two Davis Cup appearances. He has reached five semi-finals, a further two quarter-finals, including Wimbledon, and won the silver medal with Neil Broad in the doubles at the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Recently, though, the tiredness has been showing. His last semi-final was in Ostrava last month and, since then, he has not won a match, losing in

the first round in Stuttgart, Paris and Moscow.

Next year will be harder still. He must repeat the successes of 1996 to maintain his ranking and do better to improve it. The schedule is fierce, the other players have seen Henman and what he has to offer. Now the real work starts.

His coach, David Felgate, the manager of men's national training for the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), will do his bit. Next year, he will travel full time with Henman while Jeremy Bates eases into retirement by taking on Felgate's

duties at the LTA. Or, at least, he will once Henman is finished in Telford, where his first-round opponent is David Draper, from North Hants.

Rusedski has spent the year in Henman's shadow. It has not been easy, either. While Henman scaled new heights, Rusedski's ranking has been on the slide, sinking from No 37 at the start of the year to as low as No 84. He has taken on the big men, sometimes pushed them hard, but has never quite done enough to beat them as he searches for another weapon to go with his intimidating service.

Lately, though, the work seems to have paid off. In September, the Canadian-born Briton reached the semi-finals in Singapore, won in

Peking and made the quarter-finals in Stockholm last week. That has pushed him back into the top 50, where he sits at No 48. He starts his campaign in Telford with a first-round encounter against James Fox, the British No 16.

Would that the women's game in Britain looked as healthy as the men's. The three top seeds, Sam Smith, Rachel Vielle and Clare Wood, have all had a spell as British No 1 this year, but that is not saying much. Smith, the world No 137, is highest-ranked at present, while Vielle and Wood linger at No 225 and No 241 respectively. Whoever wins the women's event in Telford this week, the impact on the world will be minimal.

RADIO CHOICE

## We, at least, are amused

After Albert. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

Perry Pontac's outrageous comedy offers an alternative version of Queen Victoria's endless benevolence. Visited by Disraeli (Peter Jeffrey), bearing a message of condolence that the rest of the nation would have split sides to hear, the Queen (Miriam Margulies) regales him with classic non-sequiturs such as "I miss him terribly at times, but she and Albert had indulged in 'conjugal intimacies' on only nine occasions. Most spectacular of Pontac's disclosures, she suggests an arrangement whereby Disraeli — "my discards" — could boost that total considerably.

Meridian: Who is the Monster? BBC World Service, 11.30am. Dracula, Frankenstein's monster, the psychotic Norman Bates, and the flesh-eating Hannibal Lecter are all present and incorrect in Quentin Cooper's history of the horror film. Christopher Fraying of the Royal College of Art traces the history of the mummy, the vampire and other Stone Age beasts by turning them into art. I wonder: weren't they rather paying homage to the animals that fed and clothed them? The sci-fi novelist Kim Newman impressively takes monsters out of the supernatural context and presents them as political and scientific metaphors. Peter Daville

## RUGBY LEAGUE

## Murray on the move to Wigan

WIGAN yesterday added David Murray, 21, the Auckland Warriors full back, to their overseas quota on a three-year contract (Christopher Irvine writes). Murray made a big impression in the New Zealand Maori's recent defeat of Great Britain.

The domestic transfer market might be kick-started if Leeds, new builders for Testy Harris, the Britain stand-off half, listed at a prohibitive £1.35 million by Warrington, are successful at a lower price.

Leeds have funds available for a possible world-record deal after the club's takeover by Paul Caddick, a property developer, and need a high-quality half back.

Peter Higham, the Warrington chairman, said: "It looks as though he's played his last match for us. Gary Hetherington [the new Leeds chief executive] was interested in Testy when he [Hetherington] was at Sheffield, but any deal has to be right for Warrington."

Meanwhile, Wigan, under financial pressure to sell Central Park to Dave Whelan, the owner of Wigan Athletic FC, and share the ground with the football club, are one of several clubs hoping to arrange advances on the Super League cash allocation for next season at a meeting today.

John Quayle yesterday resigned as general manager of both the Australian Rugby League and the New South Wales Rugby League.

## CRICKET: SOUTH AUSTRALIA SWEEP ASIDE AS ENGLAND A STAGE STIRRING RECOVERY



White, left, and Butcher voice their appeals as Hegg, the England A wicketkeeper, catches Nielsen off the bowling of Giles yesterday

## Headley leads mission improbable

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN ADELAIDE

ENGLAND A have already shown a propensity to collapse under pressure that is reminiscent of the senior team but, at the Adelaide Oval yesterday, they discovered a quality that the Test side has yet to master — a remarkable talent for recovery.

Seemingly heading for defeat, the A team staged a magnificent comeback to claim a 12-run victory over South Australia. Despite

being reduced to ten men because of Darren Lehmann's commitment to appear in a Northern Territories XI facing West Indies in Adelaide Springs today, the Sheffield Shield holders were not expected to have any difficulty in scoring the 164 runs required for victory after resuming at six without loss. Yet England produced a performance bristling with aggression to dismiss them for just 157.

Dean Headley, the Kent fast bowler, again stated his case for promotion to the Test side by claiming five for 38, to finish with career-best match figures of 11 for 98. The performance led Mike Gatting, the A team coach, to champion Headley's claims for full England recognition.

"It's good news for England because we need another strike bowler, particularly with the Australians coming

over next year," Gatting said. "I would think there are a few guys in the first team who had better not sit on their laurels for too long."

Headley began the tumble of wickets in the third over of the day, inducing Greg Blewett, a candidate for the Australia Test side, to edge behind for his second duck of the match. When Headley had Jamie Siddons leg-before, the South Australia captain stood his ground and stared down

the pitch at the umpire, Ashley Hunter, before returning to the pavilion.

James Brayshaw fell to the next ball, run out attempting a risky single, and South Australia's sinking morale was evident in the outright dissent shown when Headley struck again in the next over.

Ben Johnson was unable to control a lifting ball from Headley and Adam Holoake caught him at second slip. As Johnson trudged off the pitch,

Joe Scuderi, standing at the non-striker's end, appeared to question the legality of the catch with Hunter.

Holoake insisted: "When you think you've caught a ball, you ask the umpire to make a decision and they give it out, and whether that's right or wrong, you can't complain."

Scuderi, who finished with an unbeaten 55, found a stubborn partner in Bradley Young before Ashley Giles ended their 70-run stand. Headley then dismissed Jason Gillespie and Peter McIntyre in successive balls and although Scuderi denied the hat-trick, Giles wrapped up victory by bowling Harry round his legs.

The umpires confirmed that they had spoken to Scuderi and Siddons and would be naming them in their report of the match to the Australian Cricket Board, although no further action was expected.

## SCOREBOARD FROM ADELAIDE

ENGLAND A: First Innings 294 (IM A. Boucher 73, WK Hegg 69, C White 61, M A. Harty 44). Second Innings 161 (P E. Murray 4-3).	J N Gillespie to Headley... 8
SOUTH AUSTRALIA: First Innings 276 (J D. Siddons 101, D W. Headley 6-0).	P E McIntyre to Headley... 0
	M A Harty to Giles... 0
	D S Latham absent... 0
	Extras (b 3, lb 2, nb 4)... 9
	Total (32.2 overs)... 157
	FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-38, 3-48, 4-41, 5-59, 6-129, 7-150, 8-152, 9-157
	BOWLING: Headley 20-4-38-5, Harty 9-0-30-0, Boucher 6-0-18-0, Giles 14-2-32-3, White 5-3-12-0, Holoake 4-1-12-0, Vaughan 2-0-14-0.
	Umpires: A J Hunter and R G Kneass

## SNOOKER: DEVELOPING NATIONS SHOW THAT GULF IN ABILITY IS CLOSING

## World Cup succeeds in spreading gospel

FROM PHIL YATES IN BANGKOK

SCOTLAND, represented by Stephen Hendry, John Higgins and Alan McManus, won the World Cup here on Sunday, but for those privileged to attend this ground-breaking, cosmopolitan event, a more significant victor was snooker itself.

The game's governing body, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), insists that the spreading of the green-haize gospel is a top priority and, to this end, the World Cup was highly successful.

A record total of 39 countries made up the original entry, with 20 competing in the final stages. Established hotbeds of the game dominated the business end of the tournament, as expected, but developing nations such as China, who beat Thailand 5-4 in the round-robin phase, and Belgium, equally surprising 5-4 conquerors of Northern Ireland, showed that the gulf in ability is closing rapidly.

Four of the ten world-ranking competitions will be held overseas this season — two in Thailand, the German Open and the European Open in Malta — and the theory that snooker is purely a British pursuit with a few colonial offshoots is no longer true. Inevitably, there is much

speculation about the venue for the next World Cup, scheduled for 1999. Rumoured to be on the shortlist are Brazil, for so long the front-runner to play host this year, the United Arab Emirates and Ireland.

The overall quality of snooker on display at the Amari Watergate Hotel was less impressive than usual at the highest level. As always, in locations where air conditioning is a necessity, the tables, particularly during the early stages, were sluggish but, if anything, the stop-start format had even more of a detrimental effect on the general standard.

With no player at the table for two consecutive frames, rhythm was as hard to find as a clear road in this most congested of urban jungles. Add to that the intense, and in many cases, unaccustomed pressures of playing for team and country rather than merely as an individual, and the many scrappy exchanges became understandable.

The ridiculously late finishes — no day's play reached its conclusion before 1.15am local time — were also a negative factor.

Despite these handicaps, which proved an effective leveller, the best team emerged victorious. The 10-7 victory by Scotland over Ireland in the final secured the

£105,000 first prize and the "King of Kings" gold trophy, which was valued at £30,000.

Stephen Hendry, the world champion, who defeated Stephen Murphy in the closing frame, said: "In many respects I felt under more pressure out there than I do at the Crucible. It really has

been an honour for me to be involved in all of this."

It will be interesting to see how the game's pre-eminent force deals with a more personal degree of pressure as the attempts to win the United Kingdom championship for a third year in succession. The event begins on Friday.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

## GRAMINIVOROUS

(a) Grass-eating. From the Latin *gramen*, *graminis* grass + *voro*, to eat greedily, to swallow up. The condition of nasty old Nebuchadnezzar in old age. An epithet for your militant vegetarian acquaintances. "And could my friend see your graminivorous menu, please?"

## STEGOPHILIST

(a) One whose strange hobby is climbing up the outside of tall buildings. "So you're suffering from fear of heights now, dear? Humm. Have you ever thought of trying a little stegophily?"

## DEFENESTRATION

(a) The act of throwing someone (or something) out of a window, from the Latin *de* down from + *fenestra* a window. An historic practice in Prague as well as the risk that stegophyllists run. The word is neologism's paradigm and justification. If the word were not needed to describe the act, the act would have to be performed to validate the word.

## SUGILLATE

(b) To beat black and blue, to lambast and bruise. From the Latin word for a Roman speciality. When approached for the nineteenth time by a hearty enthusiast soliciting money in the street for a dodgy religious organisation, say, with a sweet smile: "I'm terribly sorry — I cannot manage a cash donation at this moment in time. But I could offer a sugillation, if you would take that instead."

## SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Bg1 f6xg1 (1... Nxe2 2 Qxh7+ and 3 Qxg3 is devastating) 2 e3 Nxe3 3 Qxg3+ Ng7 4 Rf7 and wins

## Help us get Afghanistan back on its feet.

"Last night's World in Action programme showed how war has cost thousands of Afghans one or both legs or hands through mines, or the use of them through poise."

Since 1986, Sandy Gall's Afghanistan Appeal has specialised in the making and fitting of artificial limbs and providing after-care and rehabilitation. It has

brought not just mobility, but hope and a future to people, most of whom can now work and lead near-normal lives.

We have a new clinic and workshop in Kabul. Now we need money to equip and run it. Will you help us? (A new leg costs around £40 to make).

Send what you can afford, and we can literally put Afghanistan back on its feet.

Sandy Gall  
AFGHANISTAN  
APPEAL

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: SANDA, PO Box 16, Tisbury, Wilt TR11 8BA or CAPCASH, Acct no: 00000000, Sort Code 40-02-01



# Not such a big secret about a very big star

Well, at last the truth is told. All those readers who for years have demanded an answer to the question, "Where Errol Flynn's private parts really were?" are finally satisfied. Secret Lives: Errol Flynn (Channel 4) is the most intimate portrait of the actor's life ever made. It is a short and rather stilted, said one witness, while a former wife (whose motives surely bear examination) is on record declaring that Flynn's equipment was nothing if not middling. So that's that. We can breathe. And the solemn, debauched spotlight of Secret Lives has turned its full beam on the myth of a dead film star's penis, as though the effort were in the slightest bit worthwhile.

The oddest thing about this Errol Flynn film was that Flynn himself was hardly in it. A few snatches of *Captain Blood* or *Robin Hood* — it was difficult for

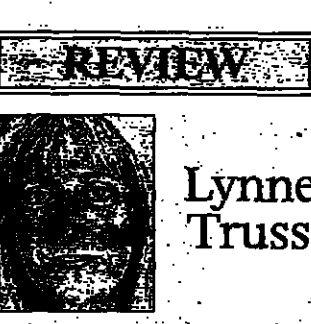
people never captivated by him to imagine what the fuss was about. Obviously he was dashing and handsome and looked good in tight-fitting, well-tailored white shirts. But the film should not be taken too seriously. It is a rather odd determination to break this butterfly on the same wheel that had done for the Duke of Windsor, *Secret Lives* has tracked down the usual biographical clichés and also a few people who had never spoken before. Unlike their big coup was a woman who

from the statutory rape case. "Now, for the first time —" who was virtually inarticulate. She sat in shadow and waved her arms. The most questionable evidence came from a screen-pundit of Flynn's (where do they get their facts?) whose particular first name was never established. "How much of the film is real?" asked a man in a suit. "It's a problem," said John Barrymore, in the movie *Too Much, Too Soon*, Flynn said: "I made more money playing a shadow of my former self than when I was my former self."

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Lynne Truss

your hand, you might catch a glimpse of a woman's deep cleavage or Clive Owen's needle-thin spiky sideburns and return to the tricky under-arm bits well satisfied. The cleavages this week belonged to ball-breaking bitches, instead of pliable page three girls, but I wouldn't get excited. Traditionally, in rubbish like *Shirley*, these two female types are the only ones permitted.

Meanwhile on BBC2, Horizon returned with a very sensible examination of the famous life-on-Mars rock, and if it didn't answer the big question one way or the other, it answered lots of the little incidental ones, such as "How can you be sure this rock is from Mars anyway?" and "Just how good are microscopes these days, then?" Actually, it turns out that the magnification of microscopes is getting completely out of control. Scientists peered ever closer at their fragments of meteorite, I kept thinking of James Thurber's cautionary "University Days" story about his own difficulties with the microscope, in which he found, finally, that he was looking at a reflection of his own eye.

All the scientific qualms were well explained, but the programme ended disappointingly. When NASA's Pathfinder mission lands on Mars and starts looking for eery-weezy signs of life, they

said, it will be "like looking for a needle in a haystack." What? A needle in a haystack? What an original and thought-provoking analogy. It must have taken them ages to come up with that.

Rating rather higher for commentary prizes was BBC2's new series 1914-18, narrated by Dame Judi Dench. This is a grand and generous production, a series clearly modelled on Jeremy Isaacs's groundbreaking *World at War* (narrated by Laurence Olivier), and it looks unmissable. Last night's instalment led us to the brink of war, and took great pains to explain how the rise of international socialism in the first years of this technological century forced the imperialist issue. It was not shy of editorialising, either: every time the doomed and bearded French socialist Jean Jaures was featured, the music and commentary lapsed into lost-saviour wistfulness, reminding us of what might have been if socialists had succeeded in keeping the peace.

Lastly, The Crow Road (BBC2) held its dramatic promise from last week — and what a clever piece it is, a mystery about the importance of mystery: a surprising story about the magic of surprise. "Prendre, you can't always know the cause of everything," explained Kenneth (the excellent Bill Paterson) to his son. Yet it is noticeable that all Kenneth's successful children's books are fanciful accounts of how things came to be — what the scholars call aetiological myths. Kenneth's books tell us, for example, why heaps of rock appear on the tops of crags. Yet we are no nearer to the story of Uncle Rory's disappearance, nor to an understanding of Aunt Fiona's death. And why oh why does the wife of Uncle Hamish always serve up cod croquet?

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- BBC1**
- 6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (23022)  
7.00am BREAKFAST NEWS (23022)  
8.00am BREAKFAST NEWS (23022)  
9.20am STYLE CHALLENGE (s) (157052)  
9.45am KILROY (s) (803096)  
10.10am CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK (s) (47929)  
11.00am News regional news (Coastal) and weather (222009) 11.05am THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (s) (440828) 11.45am SMILIE'S PEOPLE (s) (225080)  
12.00am NEWS: regional news (Coastal) and weather (415838) 12.05pm THE FLYING DUCKS (Coastal) (s) (232707) 12.50pm A DIFFERENT COUNTRY PRACTICE: Consultant (Coastal) (s) (1778270)  
1.00am NEWS (Coastal) and weather (44270) 1.30am REGIONAL NEWS (4442638)  
1.40am NEIGHBOURS (Coastal) (s) (2435363)  
2.00am CALL MY BLUFF (s) (5473) 2.30am THE TERRACE (s) (218) 3.30am INCOGNITO (s) (4890)  
3.30am BRUM (378052) 3.40am ROMUALD THE REINDEER (764381) 3.50am THE ALL NEW POPEYE SHOW (840497) 4.10am OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA (584036) 4.35am IT'S NEVER WORK (108163) 5.00am NEWSROUND (533893) 5.10am BYKER GROVE (Coastal) (2258963)  
5.35am NEIGHBOURS (s) (Coastal) (s) (344396) 6.00am NEWS (Coastal) and weather (947) 6.30am REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINE (299)  
7.00am HOLIDAY Jill Dando visits the bull fields near Amsterdam. Sarah Gula explores coastal Senegal, and Kirsty Young discovers Alicante (Coastal) (s) (8688)  
7.30am EASTENDERS A nightmare becomes a reality for Lorraine and David. Carol takes a difficult decision (s) (183)  
8.00am LIFESAVERS Stories of bravery and heroism presented by Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris (Coastal) (s) (2309)  
8.30am A QUESTION OF SPORT Joining the regulars, this week are Matthew Pinsent, Phil Tufnell, Gareth Southgate and Denise Lewis (Coastal) (s) (4744)  
9.00am NEWS (Coastal) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (5454)  
9.30am ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE A hole at the bottom of the Middlesbrough garden turns into the tunnel from hell (s) (Coastal) (s) (7505) 10.00am Foot in the Grave 10.30am Crimewatch File 11.20am The Richard Dimbleby Lecture 12.05am FILM: Welcome Home (403251)  
10.00am CRIMEWATCH FILE: Daniel Handley — A Stolen Life (Coastal) (s) (403251)  
10.50am THE RICHARD DIMBLEBY LECTURE: Professor Richard Dawkins on Science, Religion and the Appetite for Wonder (s) (16657)  
11.40am FILM: Welcome Home (1080) starring Kris Kristofferson An American Air Force officer, who was presumed dead in Cambodia but who actually remained, leaves his new wife and children to return to America, where he finds his first wife has also remained. Directed by Franklin J. Scafaria (535838)  
1.10am WEATHER (752706)

- BBC2**
- 6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE (591381) 6.30am GLOBAL FIRMS (591381) 6.55am BREAKFAST NEWS (591381) 7.15am SEE, HEAR, BREAKFAST NEWS (591381) 7.30am PERILS OF PELOPOLE (591381) 7.55am BLUE PETER (591381) 8.20am THE RECORD (591381) 8.35am DAYTIME ONE TWO: STANLEY CROFT (591381) 8.55am THE GEOGRAPHY PROGRAMME (591381) 9.15am MATCH (591381) 10.00am PLAYDAYS (591381) 10.30am COME OUTSIDE (591381) 10.55am SCIENCE ZONE (591381) 11.05am SPACE ARK (591381) 11.15am CLEMENTINE (591381) 11.30am THE GEMELSH COLLECTION (591381) 11.55am SEE HEAR (591381) 12.30am MORNING LUNCH (591381) 1.30am TEACHING TODAY (591381) 1.40am HATCH (591381) 1.55am HATCH (591381) 2.00am THE RECORD (591381) 2.10am THE RECORD (591381) 2.20am THE RECORD (591381) 2.30am THE RECORD (591381) 2.40am THE RECORD (591381) 2.50am THE RECORD (591381) 3.00am THE RECORD (591381) 3.10am THE RECORD (591381) 3.20am THE RECORD (591381) 3.30am THE RECORD (591381) 3.40am THE RECORD (591381) 3.50am THE RECORD (591381) 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## RACING 47

Ten horses to follow for the National Hunt season

## SPORT

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12 1996

## TENNIS 50

Can Henman keep Rusedski in the shade at Telford?



Briton may have to wait in line

# Lewis likely to be third on Holyfield's list

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN LAS VEGAS

LENNOX LEWIS, Britain's leading world heavyweight title contender, could meet Evander Holyfield, the World Boxing Association (WBA) champion next year. It all depends on how Holyfield wants to proceed after his magnificent victory over Mike Tyson here on Saturday. He has been talking of giving Tyson a rematch and of meeting Michael Moorer, the International Boxing Federation (IBF) champion.

If Lewis wins the World Boxing Council (WBC) title by defeating Oliver McCall in January, and Holyfield acquires Moorer's title, he might well decide to meet Lewis to become the undisputed world champion again. Lewis, of course, would be delighted to be given the chance to win the unified title. He has the style to beat Holyfield.

Even though Holyfield has close ties with Main Events, the New Jersey promotion company behind his list, it is most likely that Lewis will be third on Holyfield's list. After Moorer in the early part of next year, Holyfield is expected to give Tyson his rematch in June. It could be the most important boxing event of 1997.

Such a course might suit Lewis, who in the meantime could be consolidating his position, not so much as a WBC champion but as the third best heavyweight in the world by fighting Riddick Bowe and Henry Akwande. Once Lewis has beaten Bowe, there is little doubt that he would get the bout with Holyfield or Tyson. The public would demand it.

Holyfield, however, might decide to do none of these things and retire, for having beaten the "Baddest Man on the Planet" and the best, he might think he has nothing more to prove. He has become

the most sought-after of all American sportmen for endorsements. His achievement is being talked of as one of the most memorable in American sport. After all, he did cut down to size a man everybody believed was an invincible monster.

Holyfield is the exact opposite of Tyson. He does not surround himself with obnoxious loud-mouthed retinue. Whereas Tyson is permanently surly, menacing and dismissive, Holyfield is quiet, cooperative and understanding. Not being connected to any racial or religious groups, he does not have the appeal of

the region of \$25 million a contest.

He has become the darling of the United States. Like George Foreman, he has shown Americans that boxers can succeed without being brash or arrogant.

Nobody gave him a chance against Tyson, considering him to be too old at 34 and, with his medical history, unsuitable for the daunting task before him. As Moorer said before the contest: "Holyfield just kind of hangs his head and says he will do his best. He always reminds me of a guy standing in the rain waiting for a bus that never came. Nobody can quite figure out why Holyfield is fighting Tyson. Wouldn't it be simpler to step in front of a train?"

The result was that everybody wanted Holyfield to succeed and he did not disappoint the millions of viewers tuned in to cheer him on. Most of the 15,000 capacity crowd at the MGM Grand Garden Arena were behind him.

Being a deeply religious man, he believes his victory can confer greater glory on God. He had said before the bout: "If I beat Tyson at what people think is my weakest point, the weakest I have ever been, then that will show them how strong, how great, God is. He was there protecting me when I was at my weakest."

The sentiment was uttered with spontaneity, without any thought of the wider appeal that it quite clearly will have. From the boxing point of view, Holyfield has done the sport an important service. By his popularity, he has given the public a closer interest in boxing. The paying customer will be more critical of Tyson from now on. Once, it was all right for him to tear apart ill-equipped opponents like Peter McNeeley, Bruce Seldon, Buster Mathis and Frank Bruno. That is what monsters are supposed to do: devour hapless victims. But now that Holyfield has exposed Tyson as being not much more than a very good contender, the public will expect him to take on opponents worthy of him.

Holyfield's victory underlined the view that titles mean nothing. I cannot believe that anyone jumped up when Holyfield won and shouted: "Wow, he's won the WBA title." The series of meaningless contests that were lined up for Tyson to become undisputed champion devalued the belts.

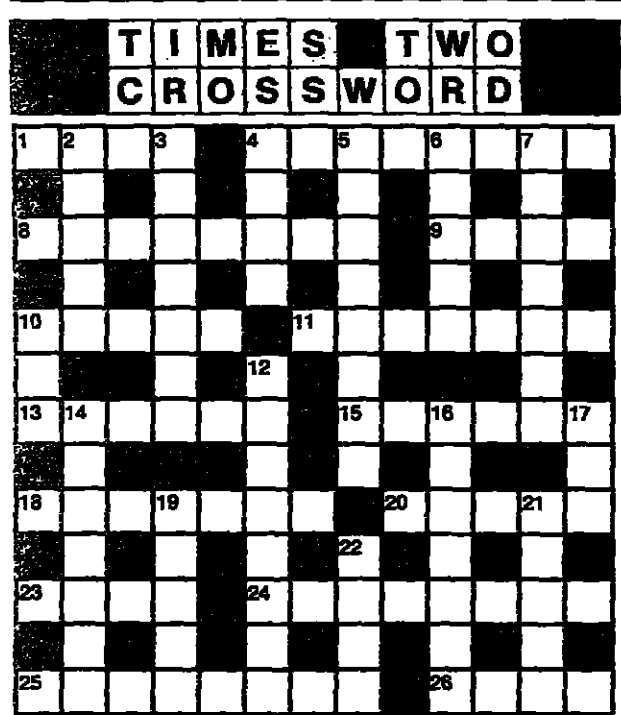
Now is the time to get rid of all the world bodies as title-sanctioning authorities. As they do provide work for boxers, they should be kept only as clearing-houses for contenders, which is part of their role at present. The paying customer has it in his power to see that the world gets champions like Holyfield, with the best fighting the best.



Lewis should consolidate

Tyson or O. J. Simpson. He is liked by black and white, blue and white-collar. Jim Murray, the sports columnist of the *Los Angeles Times*, said of Holyfield: "He is not obnoxious, simply polite. Civilised, really. Miscast as a pugilist."

It is thought that because of his wide appeal, he could make up to \$15 million (£9 million) in endorsements. Being the richest man in boxing, having earned around \$100 million, Holyfield could well decide to live on his earnings. But being a boxer, he is likely to be enticed to carry on with huge offers in



No 937

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fake (4)
  - 4 Competitive gift-giving (Am. Ind.) (8)
  - 8 Legitimate target (4,4)
  - 10 Bed; nonsense (4)
  - 10 One imputing worst motives (5)
  - 11 (Attractive) landscape (7)
  - 13 Pattern pricked into skin (7)
  - 15 Easy; medicinal herb (6)
  - 18 Gruesome (7)
  - 20 Farewell (5)
  - 23 TV satellite aerial; serving of food (4)
  - 24 Fauna (8)
  - 25 Rhythmic; carefully weighed (8)
  - 26 Degree; vigorously growing (4)
- DOWN**
- 2 Intoxicating (5)
  - 3 Communist (7)
  - 4 Scheme (4)
  - 5 Immorally (2,6)
  - 6 First English martyr (5)
  - 7 Regulate; command (7)
  - 10 A share; a wound (3)
  - 12 Library patron (5)
  - 14 Cupidity (7)
  - 16 Assembled from separate units (7)
  - 17 Bird; stage to federal Europe (5)
  - 19 Monastic mountain; Du-mas musketeer (5)
  - 21 Charming and delicate (5)
  - 22 Trudge along (4)

**SOLUTION TO NO 936**

**ACROSS:** 1 Duck 3 Jackdaw 5 Foulish 9 Apple 10 Ladle 11 Surflet 13 Entremets 17 Pismire 19 Jewel 20 Cards 22 Eminent 23 Berserk 24 Mere

**DOWN:** 1 Defile 2 Cloudless 3 John Steinbeck 4 Chair 5 Dip 6 Wreath 7 Direct 12 Elsewhere 14 Enjoin 15 Aplomb 16 Blithe 18 Ensur 21 Tar

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# The genius with a soul built from microchips

Bill Gates, the elusive chairman of Microsoft, tries hard not to reveal his inner self and personal dreams. Interview by Noreen Taylor

I had been warned by Text 100, the public relations people who look after Microsoft in Britain, not to ask Bill Gates about his wife or his personal life.

What will happen if I do? "He'll just stand up and walk out. He's done it before. Or he'll become very angry, uncooperative and freeze you."

Can I ask his new baby's name?

"We'll get back to you with that information later if we can."

Another Gates aide thought I ought to know that "a lot of people find Bill scary, the fact that he's so intelligent".

Actually Bill isn't so intimidating. Elusive, yes. Puzzling, maybe. And certainly a personality with all the warmth of a tray of ice-cubes. But not frightening. In fact, I could swear a shadow of fear flickered across his face — cute in a boyish, freckled way — when I mentioned the word emotion.

Not that he broke down or anything. He crossed his arms, protecting his personal space, and swivelled his eyes across the room to where a Text 100 aide was waiting, as if to say: this is not a neat departure from my agenda, guys.

Imagine an extraterrestrial's reactions when first confronted with humanoid life and you're close to Bill's response if the conversation wanders off Microsoft or computers.

Of course, he's weird. After all, the man's a genius. Chairman and co-founder of Microsoft, he's considered one

of the century's foremost thinkers. A frontier scout, exploring the canyons of cyberspace, blazing trails where no hacker has dared take his mouse. Bill is probably the most brilliant programmer of the age, as well as one of its most ruthlessly competitive and successful businessmen.

There's no such word as hyperbole when you're in the presence of the king of kings, the master of all universes, the richest American citizen, whose personal fortune is estimated at \$13 billion (£8 billion). Awesome or what?

He could be, were it not for the packaging. Bill's personal software is, well, drab. The wrinkled brown suit, worn with a striped shirt of some dubious synthetic material, and a hairstyle only seen on Mormon missionaries in the Seventies, is somehow distracting. It diminishes the aura of greatness, activating the nerd label he has never managed to delete.

Who is sending him out like this? I mean, he's been married for three years to Melinda French, an extremely attractive Microsoft computer products manager. And here he is, stretching, yawning, scratching and looking more crumpled than a railway ticket inspector at the end of a shift. As the yawning subsides he explains that he flew in from

Seattle the previous day. So you're jet-lagged?

"A little tired. I like to have six hours sleep since my reflexes work better that way," he answers in a high-pitched monotone, not unlike one of those electronic recordings that interrupts when you've dialled the wrong number.

We're in the Science Museum in South Kensington, where he has been conducting a question and answer session with school-children. Bill gave

the attentive computer students an outline of a world ten years hence. He described how voice-activated computers would render all other hardware obsolete. We should greet machines as the great liberators, he said, freeing us from mediocre tasks to pursue a life of leisure. With

the audience, he appeared comfortable, likeable, mischief flitting across a face too impish for 41 years. A great deal more comfortable, I might add, than he was in the 45 minutes he spent with me.

Perhaps leading off with a question about the nerd label was unwise. "I dunno. I dunno why so much attention is paid to me. There are hundreds of smart people in my business, the people who work for me, my competitors. There are many in my field leading comparatively anonymous lives. But I've chosen to be head of Microsoft, so I accept



"I'm very lucky. I get to work with smart people who are creating important products. I've got the most fun job around. Yes, I have reclusive qualities"

debate is healthy, scepticism reasonable."

Often, after a question he would stare back at a point beyond my left shoulder, with a look of bewilderment and irritation, as though I was addressing him in Serbo-Croat and he was waiting for the translator to begin.

Asking him to describe feelings such as happiness, or his sense of fulfilment at such epoch-making achievements, was especially tricky.

"I'm very lucky. I get to work with smart people who are creating important products. I've got the most fun job around. Yes, I have reclusive qualities."

home to sleep. But I still do hardcore, because it's what I enjoy doing. I'm pushing forward the whole time, not out of a sense of restlessness or frustration. But because my aim has not changed. And that is to make computers available for everyone."

The \$50 million futuristic building he plans to move into, next summer stands on 415 feet of Lake Washington shore. 80 per cent of the house is underground.

One of Bill's favourite novels is *The Great Gatsby*. I suggested that perhaps he does have a romantic heart, since Fitzgerald's hero lived in a mansion where lawns lead to a waterfront. The comparison seemed to annoy him.

"Gatsby had a deck to walk on from where he was able to see the light from Daisy's house. Gatsby collected things. He represented opportunity. You can do or have anything. An American view Fitzgerald found naïve." A smug cackle and a wave of his hand signalled that the topic was closed.

"I don't sit up all night like I did when I was 21. I like to go

to bed. But I still do hardcore, because it's what I enjoy doing. I'm pushing forward the whole time, not out of a sense of restlessness or frustration. But because my aim has not changed. And that is to make computers available for everyone."

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If it is within his communicating skills to illuminate the inner man and allow an understanding of his personal passions or hopes, it's clear he has chosen not to. It's tempting to imagine that Bill has been assembled from a box of optic wires and microchips.

Glimpses of a clever, energetic child who became fascinated by computers when he was one are all he wants to share.

Money is not what detaches his ambition. Results, moving forward, being with smart people. Filing an employee would upset him, he admits. "Though I rarely have to do that since people I hire have to be pretty smart to start off with. I surround myself with people who argue with me. That's what they're paid to do. I'm far from being the hierarchical chief, surrounded by yes men."

Microsoft and his fortune will not be inherited by his children. "I believe that to be a

dangerous practice. They'll have enough to be comfortable with. The rest I plan on donating to charities."

Speculating that he must have been a model child, one who rarely rebelled, who gave drugs, drinks, wild parties a wide berth, I almost missed the whispered response.

You did or didn't?

"I did. I said I did all those things. I was deeply rebellious which is why my parents sent me to a private school. To sort me out. I'm glad they did, those guys certainly whipped me into shape."

His eyes swivelled again towards the woman in the corner. "You have five more minutes," she announced.

Later that evening Text 100 called. They had been permitted to reveal his daughter's name: Jennifer Catherine. I told them I was grateful. They understood.

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THE TIMES

## TOMORROW

## MUSIC INTERFACE

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CHANGING TIMES

## A revolt over the bear necessities

TWO young brown bears from Slovenia have sparked a passionate peasant rebellion in the Spanish Pyrenees where, once upon a time, thousands of brown bears frolicked.

But years of unchecked hunting, the felling of forests, and the spread of farms took a catastrophic toll on the bear population. Today a mere eight bears survive on either side of the Franco-Spanish border.

Alarmed that the region would soon lose its bears altogether, this summer, the French Government bought Giva and Melva, two female Slovenian brown bears, and released them in the mountains, where it was hoped that they would go forth and multiply.

Instead they went to Spain, having slaughtered a few French sheep along the way. French shepherds duly alerted their Catalan counterparts, causing serious panic among shepherds right across the Spanish Pyrenees.

As if sensing their unpopularity, the young bears lay low for a month or so, but they could not resist the temptation of Spanish sheep forever. Two weeks ago, the bears fell upon a flock at night, near Viella, killing 15 sheep. The night the next morning was not a pretty one: sheep lay everywhere, strewn bloodily across a picture-postcard meadow. And

when the bears killed several sheep on the Andorran border.

It was too much for the Spanish shepherds. "We don't want these bears here," said Manuel Barrella, head of the Shepherds' Association of Viella, after a fiery meeting over compensation with representatives of the regional Government. "We don't just want compensation. We want our mountains to be safe."

THE government explanation, that the bears are just "stoking up" before they go into hibernation, has cut no ice with the local farmers. One said: "That's all very well. But what happens when these beasts wake up? I know. They will be ripping out the guts of my poor sheep again."

The worried shepherds have been bought off for the moment, with a government promise to pay them £150 for every saved carcass. But Giva and Melva, clearly, are on probation. The conservationists, meanwhile, are helpless before the forces of nature. Bears will always be bears and shepherds will al-

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## Doing less — but doing it better?

Bronwen Maddox expects few thrills in Clinton's second term

Early this summer, President Clinton sat for several hours with his political consultant, the now-disgraced Dick Morris, ranking American Presidents in order of greatness. According to Clinton's biographer David Maraniss, the pair concluded that he was then only in the third rank, but if re-elected could move up to the second.

As the President flies off to Hawaii on holiday on Friday, his re-election accomplished, he will be taking respite from challenges greater than repairing an Administration depleted by resignations. America faces more acute problems in the future than in his first term, while the constraints on his power have grown. If he wants to enhance his place in history he will have to find answers, but despite his flurry of campaign promises, it is unclear how he will do so.

The election, which gave Democrats the White House and Republicans control of both Houses of Congress, sent complex messages about the American mood. Voters gave Mr Clinton credit for the rosy economy and forgave him his string of affairs with beauty queens. But the public wants neither the liberalism of the first two years of the Clinton presidency — best symbolised by the issue of gays in the military — nor the revolutionary zeal of Newt Gingrich, which shut down the government.

The United States is not short of problems that require radical solutions. Medicare — its healthcare system for the elderly — will be bankrupt by 2002, on some estimates, it is bust already. Social security needs repair almost as urgently. But the message of the election is that Americans are not looking to federal government for paternalistic solutions like Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

Mr Clinton — who has been described as "breathlessly pragmatic" — was re-elected because he correctly judged that mood. On the campaign trail, he forewent grandiose proposals such as the aborted healthcare reforms of his first term, and instead scattered handfuls of micro-policies over voters' heads: tax breaks for college education, subsidising schools' access to the Internet, letting new mothers stay an extra night in hospital. But the public's wariness of government has left him with a Republican-controlled Congress from which he can expect few favours. Despite the talk of bipartisan harmony, Republicans are furious at the way Mr Clinton co-opted them of balanced budgets and welfare reform while attacking them for extremism. They would now like the luxury of placing policy failures — especially Medicare — at their opponents' door. "I think we'll sit back and hear what the President has to say," said Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, on Sunday.

Republicans will also hold the President to his campaign commitment to have a balanced budget in sight by 2000.

That self-imposed burden is made heavier, as he acknowledged on Sunday, by the fact that the economy is now slowing down. Meanwhile, the Republicans will hound Mr Clinton over Whitewater; they are already sniffing at the scent of campaign finance as an equally promising scandal. Ironically, pushing through reform in these circumstances will require not the skills of the campaign trail, but those perfected by Bob Dole, the defeated Republican candidate, in his three decades in the Senate. It will also take clarity: Mr Clinton will have to pick from his many election promises the few with which to make his mark.

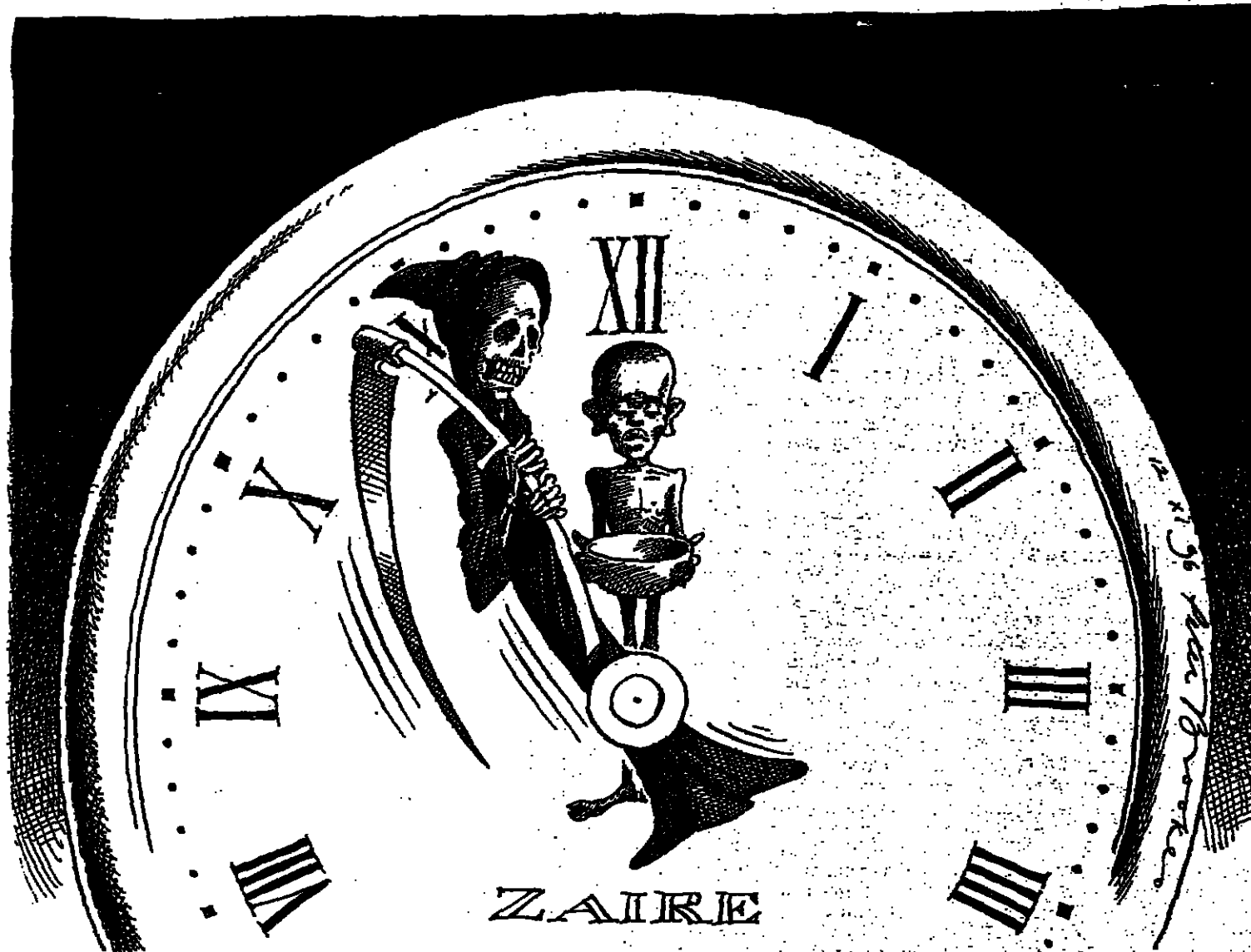
Despite the charge of many Republicans that Mr Clinton will revert to the liberal stance of his first two years, this seems unlikely. He boasts that he has refashioned the Democratic Party in the past two years to be a "modern, moderate party". For that reason, he will probably approach the tortuous question of federal entitlements gingerly. Mr Clinton is equivocating over whether to appoint his wife Hillary to a welfare reform commission, in a potentially inflammatory echo of her ill-fated healthcare panel. If he cannot get Republican co-operation on bipartisan committees, and so share the responsibility, it seems likely that attempts at reform will quietly stall.

Foreign policy — the traditional refuge of second-term Presidents faced with tough domestic problems — offers Mr Clinton no haven. He will have to decide quickly whether to prolong the American troops' stay in Bosnia, and whether to involve himself further in Ireland.

It seems likely that education will be the issue to which he devotes most attention. His metaphor of "a bridge to the 21st century" appears to mean the extension of educational opportunities. In focusing on education, he would be harking back to his success as Governor of Arkansas, where he was credited for the energy he devoted to school reform, even though the actual changes were small. These reforms — an expansion of college education, and a modest tinkering with healthcare and welfare — are all that his staff privately expect of the second term. His critics are probably right to say that he will probably be remembered as a gifted politician rather than a great President. But that is less a failing in his character than a quality demanded by an electorate sceptical of big government. For Mr Clinton to try to use federal government to bring about radical change would be to go beyond his mandate. From the perspective of the next century his second term may not look like a period of historic change, but judged by the standards of what the electorate wants and Congress permits, it may still deserve praise.

The author is US Editor of The Times.

Modest social reforms are all his staff now expect



## Broad enough for gays

If we want homosexuals to be part of mainstream society, Southwark is right

Two thousand homosexual Christians will gather at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, and hold a separate festival in Glaziers' Hall (possibly as a reminder that heterosexuals also live in glass houses, and should be wary of throwing stones). Because some of these rejoicing gays will be clergy who want the two loves of their lives to be accepted as compatible, the event will to some degree endanger the nervous compromise which is current Church of England policy on ordaining practising homosexuals.

Indeed the whole shenanigans might cause a schism: the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, says so. But the Southwark preacher, the Bishop of Guildford, says the Church itself has been "wicked" in its treatment of homosexuals and must repent. He talks of finding "a richer and deeper understanding" of the Church's tradition on sexuality: a phrasing which will bring the opponents out shrieking with fury, because when a liberal churchman talks of anything "richer and deeper" in the sexuality line, there is a sincere group of Christians, generally grouped around the Rev Tony Highton, who interpret this as talking dirty.

I had no intention of joining in this row. A robust *Thought for the Day* on Radio 4 attacking the Southwark service by Anne ("I am not homophobic") Atkins was met a few weeks ago by equally robust fury from the gay Christian lobby. This in turn inspired the average busy Christian-in-the-street to push the lot of them into some very cold water. Or perhaps to set them some useful task, such as persuading the clergy of Lincoln Cathedral to behave. Did you hear Dr Brandon Jackson on Sunday morning on Radio 4, demanding that the cathedral be closed for six months and exorcised because an evil force is preventing him getting on with the sub-den? So do you still think the Church of England has nothing more pressing to worry about than a few mild-mannered gay vicars? Anyway, of all available controversies, the praying gays of Southwark seemed a good one to avoid. I wore my white feather with pride.

But it will not do. Too big an issue is raised, and too many evils will accrue from a failure to look at it straight. A schism in the Church of

England would be a pity, but is frankly the least of the troubles we will call down on ourselves if we do not resolve to sling out both the prudery of the past and the political correctness of the present, and take a collected look at what we think of homosexuality and what we ask of homosexuals.

We are having a moral crisis, so they tell us: over child abuse, delinquency, family breakdown, random violence, and the kind of dimwitted macho amorality which killed Philip Lawrence. More than at any time since the war, there is a sense abroad that the covered wagons must now be drawn round in a circle and a larger prepared by worried and well-intentioned citizens to hold back barbarism. It is time to decide whether we want our homosexual brothers and sisters inside that laager or outside it. If we are trying to confirm our values of family life, human decency, and sexual conduct, it is not only a matter of humanity to include them (and grant them certain important sorts of parity); it is sheer practical self-interest.

That homosexual desire is not a sin or a crime is more or less universally accepted now. Even the Vatican says that what is inborn is morally neutral. The desire for a member of one's own sex as lover and lifelong partner is no longer widely seen as something you must be "cured" of by electrodes or hypnosis or exorcism. Most heterosexuals probably think of it with a vague pity, as just one of those damn things and feel sorry for those who are born that way merely because their lives are going to be awkward and their hopes of parenthood problematical.

Unfortunately, general tolerance has not prevented the cruelties of gay-bashing or the superstitious discrimination of some employers. Extreme attitudes breed extreme responses: so we have had shrill, angry campaigns of marching and "outing" and sticking pink triangles on statues of Field Marshal Montgomery and generally

overstating the gay case. Being officially told you can't do something always makes you want to affirm loudly that yes, you can — as often as you like, with bells on. So we on the middle ground do not want to be offensive have been forced by campaigning groups such as OutRage to focus on the camp extremes, and to nod in helpless acquiescence at a gay "culture" based on the promiscuity and exhibitionism of a very few. We have even, toes curling with kindly embarrassment, put up with the absurdities of PC pamphlets for schools which pretend to muddled teenagers that they are as likely to turn out homosexual as not, and that if they do, the obvious solution is not to search for a faithful lifelong love but to "experiment" and "explore your sexuality" without guilt. Which any honest adult, of any orientation, could tell them is a sure way to mess up several lives.

What we desperately lack is a supply of monogamous, faithful, responsible, rather boring homosexual role-models, especially men. They exist: longstanding couples, pillars of society, kindly people who get on with their lives and in some cases bring up children. Understandably though, given the free-wheeling, cruising, cottaging, clubbing, amyl-nitrite stuffing, squealingly embarrassing image projected by most gay campaigners, and the matching tabloid outrage from those who are terrified of "poofs", such people keep their heads down.

The result is that if your son or mine comes home one day and says he is gay, we will tremble for his future. We will be afraid he will fall among these people and be wrongly given the impression that the mysterious quirk of loving your own sex means compulsory promiscuity, uncomfortably tight trousers and reaching shy-makingly explicit magazines. The gay subculture is welcome to itself, but we need a gay superculture.

## Libby Purves

too. A ceremony of gay marriage — or at least of formal commitment before society — would help.

And, returning to Southwark, so could gay Christians. Sex aside the theology for a moment, there is certainly a serious debate yet to be completed on the subject of homosexual acts. The explicit biblical prohibitions are on a par, some think, with other ritual-purity rules from Leviticus which modern Christians do not follow, and with injunctions from St Paul which include keeping women from speaking in church. Let all that be soberly debated. But in the meantime, just consider what the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement actually wants to do at Southwark Cathedral.

They do not want to flirt, expose themselves, dress up as Marilyn Monroe, corrupt passing youth, tie one another up with leather thongs or fling off all their clothes. They want to pray. They want to give thanks for their lives, their human and divine loves, the spiritual richness of religion. Some are noisy and flamboyant, certainly, but most are mild, thoughtful, morally rather conventional people for whom sexual acts are the scheme of things. I have met and questioned two of them over the past five years, one in London and one in Darlington, and met their partners and parishioners too: I have never met more gentle, dedicated vicars.

Moreover, parishioners know it. The fact is that ordinary churchgoers are quite ready to accept that the middle-aged chap who helps with the flowers and puts the hymn numbers up is, effectively, the rector's wife. One elderly parishioner confided, in Darlington: "It's been such a relief to find out they don't have to be like Julian Clary. Quite a new outlook, it's given us." Indeed. As one vicar observed to me in more than marital terms, five years ago in his rectory in London with his friend Ray sitting quietly by, smiling at the absurdity of the conversation: "Sex is really not so important. We are bound together more by shared memories and beliefs, and going to Sainsbury's and planning our holidays and looking after the cats."

Goodness, how much we need more public homosexuals like that. Think how they could demystify and debunk the genital obsession of our time. If it is in the power of the broadest of churches to give them to us, the C of E could do us all a favour.

## Brown's windfall is theft

Labour's utility tax may be illegal, says

Woodrow Wyatt

Gordon Brown, Labour Shadow Chancellor, is plugging his proposed windfall tax on the privatised utilities with rising enthusiasm. For him it is a beauty of a tax, irrespective of its ostensible purpose. This tax would needlessly supplement training schemes which already exist for the unskilled young and unemployed. It is that respect it is reminiscent of the original taxes on cars and vehicles, which were designed to provide more and better roads: the money they raised was soon merged with the general revenues and much of it was not spent on roads at all.

Labour justifies the windfall tax as a punishment for those whom Labour derides as pigs with their snouts in the trough, who have used their positions to swell their incomes through options to sell shares at large profits. Private investors were not aware of these schemes and could have done nothing to halt them. But the profits thus made collectively by directors amounted at the most to a few million pounds — a light-year away from the billions Mr Brown hopes to raise from masses of innocent shareholders.

The tax would substantially reduce the value of their utility shares and would be a breach of faith by the government, which did not warn investors when they bought the shares of the possibility of a retrospective tax. Nor was any warning given to the institutions which run unit trusts and pension funds for millions of ordinary people.

New potential investors would be deterred. Raising capital for developing the privatised utilities would be more difficult. Incentives for greater efficiency would vanish as the utilities stopped cutting their costs for fear of another windfall tax on the higher profits which would result. Gone would be the ability of the regulators to reduce prices for consumers. Apart from the water companies, with their special problems of coping with neglect and robbery by previous governments of whichever complexion, prices are much lower than before privatisation.

Cornel Brown, asserts that his project is legal. This is not the view of overseas investors, whether utility companies or private investors who bought into our privatised utilities. In America particularly, the aggrieved, with the backing of the White House, would contemplate legal action. British firms are also considering suing a Labour government if it applied a utilities tax. There could well be challenges in the European courts, with demands for compensation for retrospective confiscation of shareholders' money. There is a vista ahead of legal wrangling sufficient to employ countless lawyers for many years, with the prospect of numerous humiliations for a Labour government persisting in such a bizarre tax.

Britain is now one of the leading countries in Europe and the world for attracting inward investment. The flow will rapidly diminish if the world realises that we can no longer be relied upon to honour normal business principles. Foreign investors would fear that after tasting blood with a new and substantial retrospective tax, British governments would bring in others.

It was the Tories who, in the 1981 Budget, enacted a windfall tax at 25 per cent on the value of not-interest-bearing deposits. This raised around £250 million. It was a punishment for making record profits, which ought to have pleased the Tories — but they were still in the grip of the anti-capitalist mood of the post-war period. The Tories also brought in a retrospective supplementary petroleum duty in 1980, confiscating from the oil companies operating in the North Sea chunks of the increased profits arising from the world oil price increases in 1979 and 1980.

But after these mistakes in the early 1980s, Margaret Thatcher gradually returned the Tories to capitalism. During and after the collapse of Soviet communism, Thatcherism became the generally accepted creed of the world outside China, and even there it now has a burgeoning influence. Tony Blair acknowledges the benefits of Thatcherism and says he will not seek to destroy them. These benefits include the further imaginative privatisations of John Major's Government. Once it was mockingly thought by feeble Tory administrations that socialist additions to the scope of the State were irreversible. No longer.

Economists now generally accept that high rates of tax do not bring increases in revenue for the Treasury. Instead, they tend to depress economic activity and encourage evasion. It is low taxation that encourages competitiveness and increased economic activity — to the benefit of all. The privatised utilities windfall tax is a last but dangerous throw of the Luddite anti-capitalists. Gladly they claim the right to follow the precedents of old Tory governments. Shamefaced, the Tories have not mounted a sufficiently strong, steady and well publicised attack on the utilities tax. They must admit that early folly and act promptly and decisively to rally support against a lunacy which would deeply damage the commerce of the country and the individuals who live in it.

## Unjust, so . . .

WITH ONE swipe of the corporate glove, the Granada Group, new owner of Brown's Hotel in London, has put an end to meetings of the Kipling Society in the room which bears the author's name.

For more than ten years, Kipling enthusiasts have gathered at the society's meetings in the Kipling Room, so named because Kipling spent a free honeymoon night at the hotel courtesy of a manager who enjoyed his writings.

When Fortie took over the hotel

from the Savoy Group, it kept up the tradition of allowing the society to use the room free of charge. But Granada, whose stock in trade is television rentals and motorway service stations, has no literary pretensions, and wants £450 for use of the room.

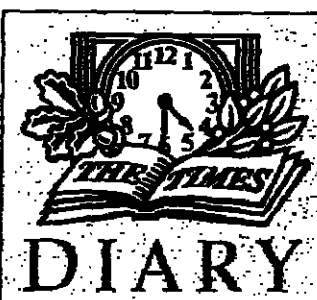
"The price was beyond our means," says Michael Smith, the secretary. "We have moved to the Travellers Club."

Andrew Lycett, who is writing a biography of the author, is saddened. "It's a great shame," he says. "The Kipling Room was an entirely appropriate venue." Despite numerous requests, Granada failed to offer any mitigation.

## Netscape

FOOTBALL LATEST: the life of Tommy Lawton — perhaps the greatest of all English centre forwards — is to be commemorated in a stage play commissioned by the former Coronation Street actor and Everton FC director Bill Kenwright.

Lawton excelled at the flicked header, despite his heavily-slicked, centre-parted hair. But business



failed to come naturally after his football career, and he endured a string of court appearances for minor financial peccadilloes. "He was a complicated man, very politicised, and did not suffer fools," says the playwright William Ivory of the former Everton and England player who died last Wednesday and whose funeral takes place today. "The saddest thing is that he won't be at the opening."

## Miller's tale

NO SHORTAGE of research on Daniel Day-Lewis's part for his role in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, which is currently being made into a film. He's been walking out with Rebecca Miller, daughter of the playwright.

Day-Lewis, who rode to work on a horse throughout the filming, is

famously coy about his relationships. When asked at the end of an interview: "Whom did you meet first, Arthur or Rebecca?" he replied: "It is a good thing you asked me this at the end or I would have left immediately."

## Race is on

FROM AINTREE comes the rattle of the begging pail, as the race-course launches an appeal to build a monument to Captain Martin Becher, a giant of Aintree and Grand National lore. In the first



"I can't stomach the grilled Willets"

National, run in 1839, Becher went and hid in the brook at the sixth fence after coming off his horse. Conrad. The staid is still known as Becher's Brook.

After much research, the administrators have found Becher's grave, unmarked, in Paddington Old Cemetery. They want to have a gravesite in place by November 22, the first day of the Becher's meeting, and have put out the call for any descendants to come forward — with chequebooks. If they are worthy heirs to a man who once rode 700 miles in two weeks to compete at race meetings, they will stump up sharpish.

● Trivia from the American presidential campaign: whenever Bill Clinton moves into a crowd to meet the people, a secret service agent is detailed to stand behind him with his hands on the presidential hips steering him from behind. If the President goes too fast, or slow, or too far into the throng, he receives, like a racehorse, a firm slap on the thigh.

## New model

THERE'S NO sentiment in super-modelling, as shown by Metropolitan Models, the agency recently abandoned by Claudia Schiffer. They have taken no time in replace-



Waif hello, Diana

ing the creamy Miss Schiffer with a young replacement, Diana Gaertner, also blonde and blue-eyed — but crucially at 19, she's seven years younger than Schiffer, at 26, is modelling models.

"She is young, fresh, new — and she has beautiful skin," says an insider at Metropolitan — as opposed, presumably, to ropey old Hausfrau Schiffer. Elite [Miss Schiffer's new agency] got second-hand goods.

P-H-S



Exceedingly good poet





## THE WILLETT'S AFFAIR

Parliament's ability to regulate itself has been cast into doubt

Self-regulation of any institution relies upon its members being prepared to resist temptation. In the City, the temptation is to make more profit; in Parliament, to win party political advantage. The pressures to maximise profit or political advantage are huge in what are both highly competitive environments. The evidence from yesterday's hearings in the House of Commons, given with the row over Michael Heseltine's relationship with his civil servants, suggests that such temptation is not always resisted.

The Select Committee on Standards and Privileges met to investigate whether David Willetts, when he was a whip, exerted improper pressure on Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, chairman of the Members' Interests Committee. At issue was the behaviour of Neil Hamilton, who had allegedly taken money and free nights at the Ritz Hotel in Paris from Mohamed Al Fayed. Mr Willetts had a conversation with Sir Geoffrey about whether and how his committee intended to deal with the allegations. He subsequently set down his account of the discussion in a memorandum which emerged during the course of Mr Hamilton's libel action against *The Guardian*.

If the contents of Mr Willetts's memo bear the most obvious interpretation, then the charge against him is grave. He set out two ways in which the committee could minimise its action against Mr Hamilton: either to declare the affair sub judice, or to "exploit the good Tory majority" to investigate it as quickly as possible. He ended by writing that "we" were inclined to go for the former option, implying that the decision had been taken together; and added that Sir Geoffrey "wants our advice".

If true, this account makes both men culpable on several counts. Mr Willetts, as a whip, should not have been trying to impose party advantage on a committee established

to serve the good name of the House. Sir Geoffrey should not have discussed the matter with him and should certainly not have sought advice from the Whips' Office.

Yesterday, though, both men cast doubt on the document's veracity. Sir Geoffrey said that he had never talked about the Tory majority, that he had not agreed a course of action with Mr Willetts and that he would not have dreamt of seeking his advice. He even said, bizarrely, that he might have forgotten that Mr Willetts was a whip.

Mr Willetts, meanwhile, used the "new boy" excuse: it was the first week since his appointment as a whip that the House was sitting. He admitted to having imposed an "artificial structure" on the conversation. And he denied that Sir Geoffrey sought his advice, even though this was expressly set out in the memo.

Neither testimony was wholly convincing, particularly when set against other events yesterday. Dale Campbell-Savours, during the hearing, claimed to have evidence that Andrew Mitchell (who was appointed to the committee while he was a whip) was regularly relaying news from the committee back to the Whips' Office. If true, this is a blatant disregard of the constraints that should be exercised in the interests of self-regulation. Meanwhile, Michael Heseltine was struggling to defend himself against charges that he had asked civil servants to find outsiders to promote Conservative policies.

If self-regulation is to work, Chinese walls must be respected: between Government and Parliament, and between Government and party. Both appear to have been breached. Yet now more than ever, the Government needs to be seen to have put improper behaviour behind it. If ministers have not grasped that, they do not deserve the public respect that they so clearly crave.

## THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR

South Africa can offer a more ambitious foreign policy

European nations are not alone in their anguish over Central Africa. As we report in our foreign pages today, Nelson Mandela has also come under pressure to dispatch troops, a request he has treated with great reluctance. South Africa's concerns echo those expressed in Whitehall, namely that it is far from clear what any international expedition would do and whether it could actually implement any improvement.

Behind this specific reluctance, however, lies a further factor. Since it assumed power, the Mandela Government has moved with great hesitancy in the development of its overseas relations. The African National Congress has found little internal consensus on the most basic questions of national interests and international objectives. The South African Government has accepted a limited, crisis management role towards those in its immediate region — Angola, Lesotho and Mozambique — but has balked at a wider one. The response to the Rwandan genocide was limited to technical assistance, while Mr Mandela's refusal to condemn Nigeria's rulers attracted much criticism.

This uncertainty is the result of recent history. During the apartheid era, international isolation prevented South Africa from conducting conventional foreign relations. The security of its borders dominated all other matters. Friendships were struck with whatever countries were willing to enter dialogue. Often these were other pariah states or, as with Israel and Taiwan, nations with particular diplomatic difficulties. In either case it did not represent a sizeable inheritance. This was compounded by the activities of the ANC in opposition, where the desire to identify with "anti-imperialist" movements in the Third World

produced a host of dubious allies such as Cuba, Iran and Libya.

The combination of these legacies has not made for coherent strategic thinking. It has left disappointed those who hoped that South Africa would exploit Mr Mandela's immense moral standing to champion peaceful and democratic development throughout Africa. In his interview with *The Times* today the President is highly dismissive of what such an ethical example can achieve. While he has travelled extensively through his tenure, such trips have focused on the promotion of South Africa's economy rather than any wider goals.

This approach might easily have been justified during the first half of the Mandela presidency. The current crisis in Zaire may well merit the extreme caution that South Africa has shown. But with only thirty months left until Mr Mandela leaves office, he should consider a greater deployment of his energy and charm beyond his nation's borders. His scepticism about the effectiveness of morality as a factor in geopolitics is well-placed; but a more activist stance abroad would be based on more than that.

South Africa is the most significant economic force in its continent. Even though it is less than three years since the introduction of majority rule, its political institutions already look among the most reliable in Africa. Were the issue of expanding the UN Security Council to be considered, then in the medium term a strong case could be made for South African membership. At home Mr Mandela has wisely decided to devote his powers as part of gradual retirement. The construction of a fuller foreign policy could be his last great political achievement.

## WHY STAMP ON THE SHAMROCK?

Like Murphy's, Unionists shouldn't be bitter

It is never, to paraphrase P.G. Wodehouse, difficult to tell the difference between a ray of sunshine and Peter Robinson with a grievance. The Democratic Unionist MP for Belfast East has, like all Ulster's politicians, endured a great deal but, unlike some others, he generally speaks more in anger than in sorrow. His talent for denunciation has been on display again after the announcement of plans to market Ulster and the Irish Republic together as a single tourist destination. He is not so much breaking a butterfly upon a wheel as crushing a shamrock with a hobnailed boot. Mr Robinson may believe that tempting visitors to Donegal also to linger a while in Derry is another step on the road to a united Ireland. If he does then he has taken another step away from reality.

Mr Robinson has a duty to his constituents to stand up for the Union. But he and they are ill-served by his confusion of co-operation with condominium. There is no contradiction between defending Ulster's position within the United Kingdom and taking up opportunities to work practically with the Irish Republic for the benefit of both. Indeed, support for the Union among Ulster's nationalist minority and across the rest of the United Kingdom is likely to be enhanced by the establishment of good neighbourly relations across the border.

The initiative taken by *Bord Fáilte* and the Northern Irish Tourist Board is a model of how cross-border co-operation should work. There is clear common interest. The visitor

drawn to Cork or Connemara is also likely to appreciate the Giant's Causeway and the Mountains of Mourne. Acknowledging, and indeed exploiting, that overlap is not to deny the significant cultural, social and political differences between Ulster and the Republic. It is simply sound marketing.

Ireland has a diaspora almost as extensive as Israel's and the exiles have earned their homeland a deserved reputation for conviviality. Ulster, unfortunately, evokes more melancholy associations. Yet there are few more hospitable holiday destinations than Northern Ireland. Its people, its countryside and its bars are easily the equal of the Republic's. It would make commercial sense for the Northern Ireland Tourist Board to subsidise any association with the South; but the arrangement unveiled yesterday sees Dublin bearing the larger part. Even the shrewdest Ballymena bank manager would approve.

Unionists may, in the near future, need to oppose efforts to erode, rather than transcend, the border. There is still a temptation for politicians in London and Dublin to indulge republican aspirations rather than defend, with the necessary vigour, the democratic wish of Ulster's majority to remain British. That is all the more reason why Unionists should welcome genuine, pragmatic, practical co-operation, so that opposition to proposals designed to detach Ulster from the United Kingdom are seen to spring from principle, not prejudice. Like the Murphy's, Unionists shouldn't be bitter.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### What role for the West in Africa's humanitarian crisis?

From Mr Martin Reith

Sir, Not we, nor the French, nor the Americans should imagine ourselves able or entitled to impose standards of behaviour in any independent country of Africa (Letters, November 5 and 9).

Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi, formerly Belgian, are French-speaking, but it is grandiose nonsense to infer any particular rights or obligations for France. We should not concern ourselves with French ambition to entrench *francophonie* as an area of political influence, which is a distraction from the humanitarian task in hand.

African behavioural problems must be solved by Africans, no doubt in an African way. The root cause of this latest tragedy, like many of its predecessors, is tribalism (aka racism) and Africans have more practical experience of that — from both giving and receiving ends — than most. Moreover, while the governments of the three African countries involved are doubtless acting irresponsibly, you will not foster a sense of responsibility by taking that responsibility away.

HMG must keep the matter before the Security Council, with its formal responsibilities for international peace and security, at least until free passage for international aid is ensured. But the Council and the UN Secretary-General should address any appeals primarily to the appropriate African heads of government.

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) should be pressed to consider urgently what practical measures it can take. If there has to be intervention, with the risk of violence being needed to counter violence, it had better be African.

Tanzania's invasion of Uganda in 1979, overthrowing Amin, did not by itself provide the right answer (because the return of Obote was not progress) but it was a catalyst.

Meanwhile the enormous sums given each year by European nations for development in Africa will, I hope, continue to flow, motivated as always by humanitarian concerns, and be administered with careful regard to their being used properly and wisely. That way we really can help.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN REITH  
(High Commissioner in Swaziland, 1983-87; Ambassador to Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea, 1987-91).  
Ardnagaul House,  
Strathay, Perthshire.  
November 10.

### Bhutto's Pakistan

From Mr S. A. Mold

Sir, Ms Victoria Schofield ("The end of a dream", Features, November 6) seems more influenced by her old Oxford ties with Benazir Bhutto than by an objective evaluation of the constitutional action the President of Pakistan had to take.

To say that Benazir's dismissal "has cut short her dream of fulfilling her father's plans to build Pakistan into a country 'where deserts bloom'", and that "the price she paid for attempting to lead Pakistan into the 21st century was high" is to turn a blind eye to the abysmal record of her years in office.

Her notoriously corrupt administration brought Pakistan to economic and political ruin. The reserves have been perilously depleted and total lack of law and order has drained away every bit of Pakistan's moral standing. Section 17 of the constitution claimed 1800 lives last year, and allegations of corruption against her husband, whom she made a Cabinet minister, abound.

Yours sincerely,  
S. A. MOLD  
(Director General,  
International Centre for  
Islamic Studies,  
144-146 King's Cross Road, W.C1.  
November 6.

From Mr Babar Muntaz

Sir, There was a time when Pakistanis were limited to general elections, having one General follow another. It seems that we are now entering a period of presidential elections, with elections at the whim of one President after another.

Yours sincerely,  
B. MUMTAZ,  
2a Hampstead Hill Gardens, NW3.  
November 6.

### Teachers' dress

From Mr C. Howard Soper

Sir, If Mr David Shaw, MP, can draft an amendment to the Education Bill with the aim of outlawing "sloppy dress for teachers" (report, November 11; see also Letters, November 6), I suggest that his drafting talent might be better employed in drafting amendments to the Crime Bill outlawing illegitimate knives.

It seems to me that the latter is more amenable to easy definition than the former.

Yours faithfully,  
C. HOWARD SOPER,  
Flat 5, De Montfort Court,  
Stoneygate Road, Leicester.  
November 11.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

From the Acting Director of Christian Aid

Sir, No one would dispute the folly of troops rushing into Zaire without a clear mandate, simply on the ground that "something must be done" (leading article, November 8).

The problem is that as far as Central Africa is concerned the international community can hardly be accused of rushing into anything. For over two years the governments of Europe have been aware of the existence of armed factions in the refugee camps, and of a planned return by the ex-army to Rwanda. Nonetheless, the overriding question — how to disarm those refugees carrying weapons — has never been addressed.

OAU leaders have called for international intervention. With political will, it should not be difficult to agree a mandate. The first task of an intervention force must be to ensure the speedy delivery of food, water, medical supplies and shelter to the one million people whose lives are at risk. The second should be to disarm the armed factions and separate the genuine refugees from the militia. Then those wishing to return to Rwanda can do so without fear of intimidation.

The problems in Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi are deep-rooted and cannot be reduced to "tribal warfare", nor can European leaders hide behind the argument that this is just an African concern. The policies of Western governments, including Britain, have contributed in no small way to the causes of these countries' downfall: huge external debt; a narrow export base with balances of trade dependent on the vagaries of world markets; and appallingly timed austerity measures imposed by the international lenders.

Further, the West's inactivity over the last two years has contributed to the humanitarian catastrophe of today.

Only decisive action now, in the form of military intervention, can save lives, but we must also work for a longer-term solution in which both Africa and the international community play their part.

Yours,  
KATE PHILLIPS,  
Acting Director,  
Christian Aid,  
PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT.  
November 8.

From Mr John O'Shea

Sir, If a military force is not sent to Zaire without delay, the bulk of one million Rwandan refugees, at present

gone "missing" according to the UN, will die.

When will the Western world own up to its responsibilities to humanity? If such a disaster was occurring in London, Paris, New York or Dublin, the international "fire brigade" would quickly quench the flames.

The relief and development organisation which I represent has worked in Goma for the last two years. Over that period, while the Western world was affording pathetic assistance, we have helped to bury 145,000 cholera victims.

Yours etc,  
JOHN O'SHEA  
(Director), Goal,  
28 Meon Road, Acton, W3.  
November 11.

From Air Marshal Sir John Curtis

Sir, With the situation in Rwanda rapidly deteriorating and with the aid agencies unable to get food to the refugees, one system is available for use. "Snowdrop" is a method of air-dropping food in individual packages each of which will sustain each person for a day. As some 88,000 packages can be dropped in one lift a great number of people can be sustained by this system. Using this system people cannot be injured as with the usual palletised loads nor can the food easily be hijacked by armed bandits.

Operation Snowdrop could be operational within five days from the order being given and I urge the Overseas Development Administration or United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, both of whom have been briefed on this system, to action this plan now.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN CURTIS  
(Chairman),  
The Association of Pathfinders,  
Swire House,  
59 Buckingham Gate, SW1.  
November 11.

From Mr K. W. Woznica

Sir, It would be of much greater benefit to the "underdeveloped countries" if, instead of supplying them with food and armed soldiers to help with their distribution, the "developed countries", simply stopped supplying them with arms.

Yours etc,  
K. W. WOZNICA,  
Willow Springs,  
Longhedge, Corsley, Wiltshire.  
November 9.

### Firearms Bill a 'simplistic' response

From Mr Michael Yardley

Sir, Tomorrow will be a sad occasion. It will see the second reading in the House of Commons of the Government's post-Dunblane Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

This is a simplistic, media-led response to a very complex problem. It will not work, but it will lull the public into a false sense of security and dislocate the lives of tens of thousands of decent, law-abiding people. There will be no compensatory benefit whatever. It will bear on sportsmen and no one else. It will not affect criminals or violent crime.

On the other hand, it will cause the loss of 2,000 jobs, destroy an ancient and honourable liberty, and expose the Government to a compensation bill which the best research estimates at at least £300 million and perhaps much more.

Members of Parliament must ask themselves what real benefit the Bill is meant to confer, and whether this vast amount of money could not be spent to better effect.

This association is not arguing for

the status quo. If Parliament is serious about addressing violent crime, there are sensible steps to take, such as creating a national firearms control board and doing something to stop the influx of illegal weapons into this country (which has increased as a result of EU frontier changes, the break-up of the Soviet Union and the drugs trade).

The Sportsman's Association believes that the most important thing the police can do in this situation is to look more carefully at the personal suitability of certificate holders and applicants. In this, police procedures have always been deficient. But even this does little to address criminal misuse, for criminals have their own sources and legally held firearms figure scarcely at all in serious crime.

Yours etc,  
MICHAEL YARDLEY  
(Spokesman),  
The Sportsman's Association of  
Great Britain & Northern Ireland,  
1 Sentinel Works, Whitechurch Road,  
Stretford, Cheshire.  
November 10.

### 'No win, no fee'

From Mr Michael Gould

Sir, Frances Gibb (Law, November 5) describes the increasing use of conditional fees by lawyers acting in civil litigation cases, under the heading "Improved access to justice". It is worth noting, however, that there is nothing to prevent solicitors in such cases agreeing "mark-ups" with clients of up to 100 per cent on their usual fees if they are successful in a case which the solicitor may know quite well the client is going to win. This mark-up is effectively taken from the damages the client eventually wins.

Most solicitors would not take advantage of a client. However, the increasing popularity of conditional fees has to be seen in the context of the continuing decline of the legal aid system and the likely introduction in the near future of limited fees being recoverable against defendants.

As Frances Gibb makes clear, the main beneficiaries of all these developments are particular friends of the present Government, namely insurance companies, who meet the bill for damages and costs in most personal injury cases where the claimant is successful. They will in future face fewer legally aided claims (where they are unlikely to recover costs against an unsuccessful claimant) and face more claims which are either inadequately funded (and therefore under-prepare) or else subsidised by the client through a conditional fee.

Yours sincerely,  
M. GOULD (solicitor),  
77 Beechfield Road,  
Davenport, Stockport, Cheshire.  
November 11.

### Need for clarity on species at risk

From Professor N. Mrosovsky, FRSC

Sir, At a workshop last month, held before the World Conservation Congress in Montreal, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) confirmed its commitment to revised criteria for listing endangered species in its Red List. The aim is to make the lists "endangered" and "vulnerable" categories more objective and to clarify the reasons for placing a species in a particular category.

My own search for clarity in those matters has proved disappointing. Under sea turtles, for instance, the current Red List gives the source of its information as the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the IUCN. But in October I learnt from their office in Washington that the material was not yet assembled in a suitable format, and that they could not say when that would be.

Even more surprising was the discovery that the compilers of the latest Red List were equally in the dark. The listings, it seems, had been made on the basis of evidence that was both unscrutinised and unavailable for independent study.

Similarly, on the Internet, one can ascertain from the Red List that the hawksbill turtle, distributed over 122 areas, faces "an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future". But the evidence is not given, nor is there any documentation supporting a drastic decline in its populations.

The new system of listing could be a great improvement over the old one. But objectivity is unconvincing without data to back it up. I propose that species lacking such data be placed in the "data deficient" category, and that the Internet list be immediately altered to reflect this.

The credibility of the Red List can only be established if data and documentation are available from the outset, instead of being added on as an afterthought, to allow for normal scientific assessment, debate and, if necessary, alteration.

Yours etc,  
N. MROSOVSKY,  
University of Toronto,  
Department of Zoology,  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 3G5.  
November 10.

### Working hours

From Mr Graham Allen, MP for Nottingham North (Labour)

Sir, Rather than treat the EU's working time directive, setting minimum standards on working hours, rest periods, etc., as the political football in the eternal extra time between Tory Eurosceptics and Europhiles, the Government would do well to take the advice of the CBI and act constructively (report, later editions, November 11). Used flexibly the new measures would provide the modest and rational basis for positive negotiations on working conditions between employers and employees.

This would lead to increased productivity due to good health and good morale as well as be a deterrent to the cowboy employers that are the bane of the vast majority of employers. The rest of Europe, North America, most British parties, most UK employers and employees want to treat this issue on its merits and work together to build safer working environments. The future health and safety of all of us should not be held to ransom because of the Prime Minister's need to placate the tiny but vocal minority within the Conservative Party.

Yours sincerely,  
GRAHAM ALLEN  
(Shadow Environment Minister,  
Health and Safety),  
House of Commons,  
November 11.

### De Valera and Collins

From Mr C. P. D. Dorman-O'Gowan

Sir, Brenda Maddox ("Movie goes soft focus on Ireland", Media, November 6) argues that to accuse De Valera of organising the death of Michael Collins is "immoral and mischievous". What is without doubt is that De Valera rejected the democratic voice of Dail Eireann when it approved the Anglo-Irish treaty, took up arms against the lawfully constituted state, waged a civil war against the Government of the Irish Free State and thereby was responsible for thousands of deaths and a great deal of damage.

It was De Valera's forces who ambushed and killed Michael Collins, and there is now clear evidence that he was in the immediate area of the ambush at the time of Collins's death. De Valera may not have organised that ambush, but without any doubt at all he was, by his actions, directly responsible for the death of Michael Collins.

Yours sincerely,  
C. P. D. DORMAN-O'GOWAN,  
Broad Chare Chambers,  
Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne.

### Blair's hair

From Mr G. A. Michaelides

Sir, Surely it is not what is outside Mr Blair's head that is important (Letters, November 9), but what is inside?

Yours sincerely,  
G. A. MICHAELIDES,  
77 Turnpike Lane, N8.  
November 8.







## OBITUARIES

## MARJORIE PROOPS

Marjorie Proops, OBE, agony aunt, died on November 10. She is thought to have been born in 1911.

A resident agony aunt on the *Daily Mirror* for a quarter of a century, Marjorie Proops presided over a revolution in the tone and content of problem pages in newspapers. When she began her ministrations on the magazine *Woman's Mirror* in the late 1950s, the agony aunt existed mainly to dispense moral advice — generally to young and fearful girls — of the “if he wants... don't...” variety. The mechanics of sexual life were, as yet, things not to be read about at the family breakfast table. Sin with its awful consequences, not social and personal expediency, was the prevailing ethos in which advice was sought and tendered.

By the time she published her final *Daily Mirror* column last week this chastely atmosphere had changed out of all recognition. Almost nothing was taboo. Marjorie herself led the cavalry charge towards the sexual explicitness which now characterises the average problem page. Although her advice was always genuinely tendered, she early recognised that the sexual behaviour and problems of “ordinary” people — the next-door neighbours, as it were — made good copy and sold papers galore. Timorous inquiries such as “Ought I, before the wedding day, if he insists...?” were swept away in the discussion of foreplay, multiple orgasms and masturbation, the last for long an unspeakable word which Marjorie was proud to be the first to utter — and discuss — in the pages of a family newspaper.

Austere letter headings from “Worried of Wolverhampton” or “Nervous of Norwich” gave way to shrieking headlines — “Are his demands perverted?”, “Is my stepdad's love unlawful?” — which announced their wares as brazenly as any of the more avowedly steamy parts of the paper.

Women were the principal beneficiaries of this explicitness and Marjorie never allowed them to think of themselves as shrinking violets. Man, whether breadwinner or not, had no right to make a beast of himself in the bedroom, and was to be told so in no uncertain terms. By the same token there was many a stern admonishment to wife or girlfriend to spice their act up, if auntie felt it was a root cause of the problem besetting a relationship.

Yet, its commercial qualities apart, Marjorie never lost sight of the value of her column as a service. All of the 50,000 letters she received in a year were replied to. Indeed, in her working life she was reckoned to have corresponded with 3 per cent of the British population.

Editors occasionally attempted to tone down explicit copy, but Proops was fortunate to have found her home on a paper of similar kidney to herself. In its early stages, her career was almost entirely the creation of Hugh Cudlipp (later Lord Cudlipp, chairman of the International Publishing Corporation), the mentor who promoted her from general reporter to feature writer and columnist. Proops remained loyal to Cudlipp and to the paper, and came to be seen around the *Mirror* building as a symbol of continuity. Editors might come and go, and scandals, in the wake of Robert Maxwell's death, threaten to destroy lesser journalists. Proops remained seemingly inviolable.

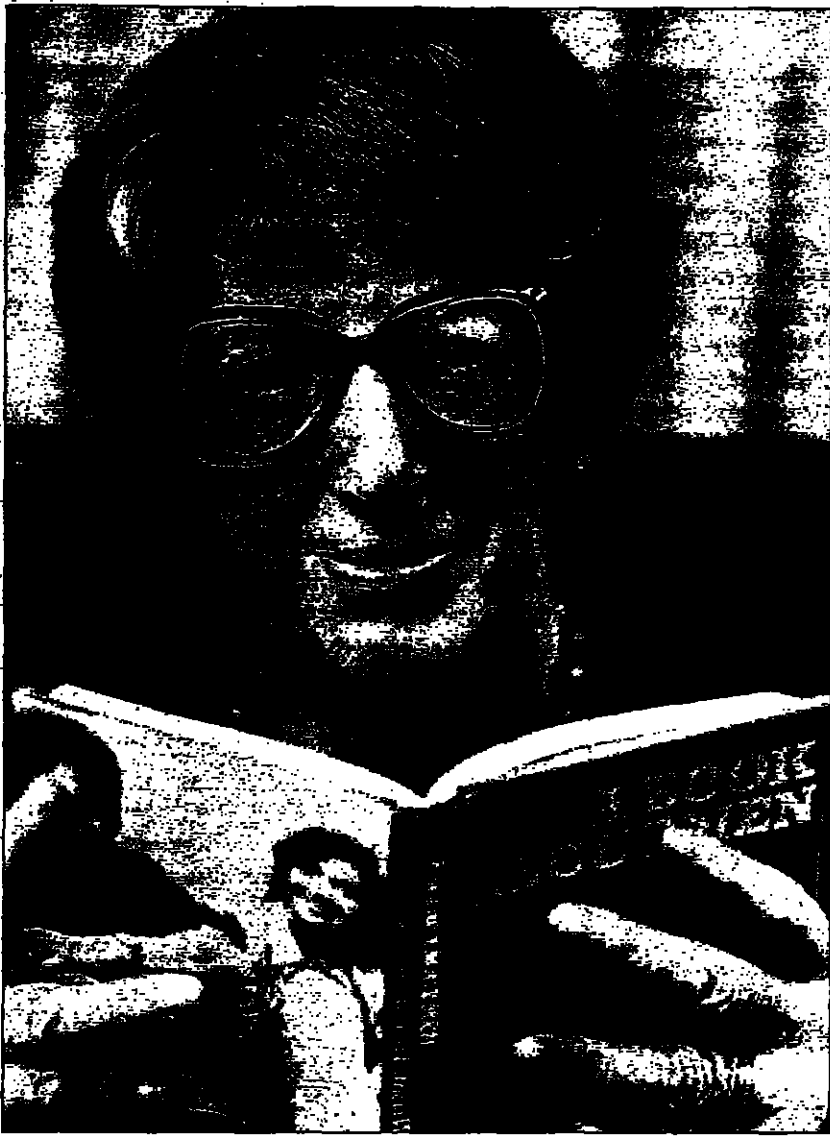
In her heyday she was the best-known woman journalist in the country. She was in demand as the star of radio shows and Labour Party conferences. It was an emancipated sort of celebrity for a woman in her early days. But it rested not merely on her notoriety, but on her intelligence and her achievements as a journalist. To her readers she was the modern-working woman, to all intents and purposes happily married to “Eppie” — her husband Sidney.

Proops went into journalism at a time when there were few other women writers and, though she liked to encourage other young women on the staff — though not at her own expense — there was no doubt she enjoyed her unique position on the *Daily Mirror*. The entire room stood, to a man, when she entered an editorial conference. If she were leaving the *Mirror* office for an evening party, dressed in an evening gown, she would sweep majestically through a crowded room of sub-editors before leaving the building.

The truth about her “happy” marriage emerged dramatically in 1992. *Marjorie: The Guilt and the Gingerbread*, an authorised biography written by Angela Patmore, was the platform from which Proops had decided to free herself of a guilty secret. The fact was she could not stand dear old Eppie. Her marriage, she told Patmore, had been a sham from its inception in a disastrous first night which had almost put her off sex for good. Her real love had been the *Mirror*'s company lawyer, Philip Levy, with whom she had conducted a discreet affair for almost thirty years.

The story, from one who always gave the impression of being in control of her life, was irresistible. The other tabloid papers recycled it with glee. But in fact, the revelations, coming as they did in a year of near-knuckle royal gossip, could hardly further stimulate the palate of a public which was well nigh glutted with such stories.

Rebecca Marjorie Israel (the name was



later shortened to Rayle) was born over a greengrocer's shop in Woking. She remained evasive about her exact date of birth, probably because she never wanted to be forced to retire. Her father sold the shop to buy a series of pubs and her childhood was spent trekking in his wake. She lost count of the number of schools she attended. Compared unfavourably by her mother with her pretty younger sister, she was introduced to guests as “the brainy one” and advised to learn how to make her own living. She was not only clever but had a powerful contralto voice, which won her talent competitions, and she could draw. After art college, she joined a fashion studio as an illustrator. She rented a room off Fleet Street, and

began to sell her fashion illustrations to the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Express*. She married her husband, Sidney Proops, an engineer, in 1935.

Marjorie Proops was first introduced to Hugh Cudlipp, then features editor of the *Daily Mirror*, in 1939. He saw a gauche young woman in an overlarge, porridge-coloured suit, who had come in to make some sketches. Looking over her shoulder, he asked her if she would represent the paper at Ascot that Monday. She was a success, and Cudlipp took her on and sent her to Paris to draw hats. He also gave her a new artist's byline, Silvine: “I was horrified. It made me sound like a flower shop,” said Proops.

There was not much call for fashion

drawings in the small wartime newspapers but Proops was kept on, on a retainer. She lived in the country with her young son, and worked as a freelance fashion illustrator. The editor on *Good Taste*, for which Proops drew knitting patterns, recognised that her knitting captions were unusually well-written. She asked Proops to write 1,000 words on life as a young mother in wartime Britain. A regular slot followed, and there were commissions from other editors.

After the war Proops, now a freelance writer and artist, was taken on by Hugh Cudlipp's brother Percy, the Editor of the *Daily Herald*, as fashion editor. She was given books and the occasional opera to review. She also got her first taste of agony aunting, when Mary Marshall, the old agony aunt, died. But after Percy Cudlipp's removal from the editor's chair she felt frustrated there and was tempted back to the *Daily Mirror* by Hugh Cudlipp in 1954.

She arrived on the *Mirror* as a columnist but was almost immediately groomed for life as a roving feature writer. She was sent abroad to interview Hollywood stars. Celebrities visiting Britain would also have lunch with her. She was already beginning to adopt an unusually intimate tone with her readers and wrote about painful personal experiences such as having to pack her son off to boarding school.

In 1959 Proops began writing a light-hearted weekly advice column for the magazine *Woman's Mirror*. In America in 1964 she met the widely-syndicated columnist Abigail van Buren — “Dear Abby” from whom she learnt to “spice up” her copy. Until then, agony columns in Britain, like those of “Evelyn Home” in *Woman*, had tended to be either moralistic or sentimental in tone. In van Buren's punchy, realistic columns she saw a way forward for herself. When she returned to Britain she talked to Hugh Cudlipp about transferring her agony column to the main paper and trying to do something similar. The move did not come about for another seven years, but the style of the column in *Woman's Mirror* became more racy during the 1960s. She was appointed OBE in 1969. Finally in 1971 Proops began her *Dear Marjorie* column on the *Daily Mirror*.

The first of its kind in a British daily newspaper, it led to similar agony columns in other tabloid newspapers and women's magazines. Other agony aunts, such as Claire Rayner, would eventually become as well-known as Proops, but none completely eclipsed her.

She gathered a team of medical and psychiatric experts around her to help with specialist problems. One thousand letters a week began to pour into the

*Mirror*'s offices and they sharpened Proops's campaigning spirit. The column became a forum from which to talk about abortion and homosexuality (on both of which she was an early supporter of legal reform).

Proops had always been a Labour supporter and with her newly acquired reputation she stepped up her public commitments. She sat on two government committees: from 1969 to 1974, Sir Morris Frier's Committee on One Parent Families and, from 1976 to 1978, Lord Rothschild's Royal Commission on Gambling. She threw her weight behind Labour candidates with some effect, and became privy to numerous secrets. The relationship did not always work in her favour. She interviewed Harold Wilson on his 60th birthday, five days before he announced his resignation in March 1976. He misled her during that interview on the question of his retirement because he did not want to put her in the awkward position of not being able to publish the scoop. Proops regarded herself as a serious political writer, and never forgave the deception.

She was not immune to flattery. She was particularly susceptible to the charisma of Robert Maxwell, well after he acquired ownership of the *Mirror* Group. On a whim one day in 1985 he decided to make her a director, despite the fact that she was well past the official retirement age for *Mirror* Group directors: “You can't do that Bob,” she said, “it's illegal. You have to have a board meeting, with people putting their hands up and all that.” He ignored her objections then, but later, still worried about it, she resigned. Behind her back he was less charming, and there was a Byzantine plot to fire her which she regally weathered. Proops was often rumoured to be costing the paper an enormous amount of money. In fact she was not exorbitantly paid, but the service she provided for readers, which called for teams of experts and secretaries, was expensive.

Proops continued with a punishing workload largely through the support of her loyal staff, and wrote two books on her work as an agony aunt. She was often not in good health, and was forced to contend with arthritis, hip replacements, a brief nervous breakdown and, most recently, cancer. But she maintained a pace that did not decrease even after the deaths of Philip Levy in 1987 and of her husband in 1988. Indeed, she took on the *Sunday Mirror*'s agony column in 1992 at the same time as her commitments to the *daily paper*.

She is survived by the son from her marriage.

## WALTER STERN

Walter Stern, lecturer in economic history, died on October 27 aged 84. He was born on September 11, 1912.

GENERATIONS of students at the London School of Economics came to appreciate Walter Stern not only for his

words of encouragement but also for his understanding of their problems. Although he himself had an excellent brain, he did not, like so many first-class scholars, look down on others whose minds worked at a slower pace; by his own example he showed how they could better their

performance. That his own life had been far from easy may explain the sympathy and concern he showed his pupils. Unusually for a teacher of economic history, Walter Stern had worked in business before he came to write about it. He was born at Zehlendorf near Oranien-

burg, north of Berlin. He had a thoroughly German education and upbringing, culminating in a law course at Heidelberg which included a spell in France at the Sorbonne. The son of a director of the Badische Bank, he obtained part-time experience at one of its branches before

escaping from Hitler's Germany and coming to London in May 1933.

Though fluent in French, he could speak next to no English and had to take a crash course at Pitmans. The effort of having to think and speak in a completely new language and accustom himself to mannerisms strange to him was greatly eased by friends he met at the 33 Club for refugees, particularly Audrey Simmonds whom he subsequently married.

His previous experience enabled him to find voluntary work from 1934 to 1935 at the merchant bank of Ullmann. He then became a director of H K Furniture, a bedding and upholstery business in north London. He also befriended refugees, as secretary to the director of what was to become the Czech Trust. The rest of his family later joined him in England.

He became a naturalised British subject in 1940 and in 1941 was called up into the Royal Armoured Corps. Sick even when riding in a car, let alone a tank, he found his niche as a very effective wireless instructor. He later served in the Education Corps and in Intelligence and finally as a member of the British War Crimes Commission, translating documents subsequently used at Nuremberg.

In 1946, helped by a further education and training grant, he was admitted to the LSE where, impressed by the brilliant lectures of F. J. Fisher, he elected to specialise in economic history. In 1949, after taking the best first in his year,



he was appointed immediately to the staff of the economic history department. Here he found his true metier, remaining for 30 years until his retirement in 1970.

He had an unrivalled gift for friendship and soon became a popular and much respected member of staff. He had an endearing smile, which rose from the neck upwards to encompass his normally serious face, especially when the joke was on him.

Among his students was Michael Philip Jagger. Stern noted in his tutorial report at the time that this student proposed to abandon his course “to form a skiffle group”, adding that “I advised

against it as there was no money there”. Typically, he was later happy to confess that Mick Jagger had shown greater aptitude for economic matters than his tutor.

While care of students and methodical teaching were his main concerns, he is more widely known for his successful textbook, *Britain Yesterday and Today* (1962), notable for its preface in which he confessed with disarming frankness that “the writer of an outline of economic history has to be a fairly brazen liar... he cannot cover two centuries in 100,000 words without reducing an intricate landscape to a small-scale map by generalisations which verge on untruth.”

In his research he chose not to write about European history, in which, thanks to his continental knowledge and command of French and German, he might have won an international reputation. Instead, he concentrated on Britain, and worked on the Corporation of London records at Guildhall. He published much about London's history.

A man of abstemious habits, he did not drink, smoke or even drive, preferring to walk or ride his bicycle. He wore suits, so it was said, for long enough for them to come into fashion again. In academic matters, however, he was most methodical. He even mastered shorthand to save time — shorthand not in one language but in three.

After retirement he continued to teach at LSE part-time and was much involved in alumni matters. Both he and his wife were serious walkers, taking the entire perimeter of Rutland Water in their stride, for instance, as a day's outing. He was often to be seen pedalling between his home in Stroud Green and Aldwych at a steady, magisterial pace; but cycling was destined to change the pattern of his active life when, in 1985, a motor cyclist collided with him as he wended his stately way. He lay unconscious for some time and became a virtual invalid for the rest of his days.

He is survived by a son and a daughter and by Audrey, his wife, who cared for him after his accident with enormous devotion for the remaining 11 years of his life.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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## ON THIS DAY

ON THIS DAY  
November 12, 1920

## SINN FEIN RAMPANT IN NEW YORK

SINN FEIN RAMPANT IN NEW YORK  
New York, Nov. 11

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November 12, 1920



## BRIEFINGS

Application forms are now available for the 1997 Queen Elizabeth Scholarships for men and women of all ages who want to improve skills in their craft or trade. Send an A4 SAE with a 31p stamp to the Royal Warrant Holders Association, 7 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6JY. Forms must be completed by January 31.

Lawyers for your Business, a solicitors' group that advises small business, has teamed up with the Enterprise Advisory Service to produce a disk listing sources of grants and loans. Some member law firms offer the disk free but others make a small charge. Details: 0171-405 9075.

A checklist has been drawn up by BT and the Federation of Small Businesses to help companies to choose the most cost-effective communications technology to suit their needs. Many small businesses have been found to be reluctant to buy because they fear the equipment will be too costly and too complicated to use. *Buying with Confidence* is available free on 0800 800800.

Reducing tax on profits, creating a tax-effective remuneration package and minimising tax on selling a business are dealt with in a guide for small and medium-sized companies by the UK 200 Group of accountants. *Tax Planning for the Smaller Business*, edited by Jan Matthews, a barrister and tax specialist, is aimed at the layman and costs £10. Contact: 01252 333511.

For micro businesses in Essex, where more than 80 per cent of firms have fewer than ten staff, free consultancy plus subsidised development courses are on offer in a £300,000 incentive by enterprise agencies. Roadshows are attracting beginners and those considering start-up, whether in or out of work, to evening or day courses. Contact: 01245 49612.

The second Cornwall Exporter of the Year Award is being organised by Barclays Bank and In Pursuit of Excellence, a local initiative supported by the Prince of Wales. Firms based on the Isles of Scilly are also eligible. The competition has a category for small businesses. Entry forms from Barclays Bank branches.

A software package showing small businesses how to calculate savings that can result from using electronic methods of making and receiving payments is being offered free by Bank Automated Clearing Services. Contact: 0800 19191.

# Cook responds to call of lights, cameras... food

Robin Young  
meets a caterer  
aiming upmarket  
in a niche area

Jane Dean went into business because, at 29 and with two young daughters, she needed to work from home. So she quit nursing and began cooking ready-made meals to fill other women's freezers. Now 47, she has been earning her living by cooking ever since, but has captured an unusual niche — location catering for film and television crews.

"My first attempt at running a business failed," she says. "I mortgaged my life away to open, and because I had a £120,000 loan, the place never stood a chance of paying for itself. I made all the mistakes — gave away too much champagne, behaved as if VAT did not exist. If I had not sold out when I did, I would have been bankrupted by the rather wonderful bank manager who had loaned me so much money."

There followed a grim time living at her parents' home, with two children, three cats and a dog all in one room, while she sought opportunities. "Granada Television had no one catering for their social club, so I applied," she says. "They said they were not interested, but I left my CV, recipes and costings anyway. Next morning they called: 'Could I start Monday?'"

Mrs Dean says she knew that television people would want their food quick, cheap and good, so she went for everything upmarket.



Jane Dean's business is keeping film crews fed on location from her state-of-the-art mobile kitchen

with menus changing daily, lots of salads, generous buffets and plenty of good, healthy food. She says: "Soon they were asking me to cater for the studios, too. Then I saw the wagons used for location catering and thought: 'I can do that.'"

Her first location job was for a team of 30. "I borrowed £3,000 from a friend, bought a burger trailer and converted it over a weekend, putting in a cooker, fridge and freezer," she says. "Never having been out on a job before, I took along ordinary crockery instead of plastic disposables. I didn't realise these people drank 15 cups of tea a

day. I was running all over the place collecting washing-up."

The state-of-the-art catering trailer that Mrs Dean uses now cost £65,000. "It has a kitchen like a first-class hotel," she says, "and now I can virtually pick and choose the locations I want to work on because they ask me first."

Mrs Dean's hopes of serving Granada's staff restaurant were disappointed when Granada took over a catering company, but she won the catering for Granada studios in Liverpool "as a consolation prize". She says: "I put my daughter, Samantha, and her boy-

friend, now husband, in there, and started borrowing again to get another wagon so I could get more location work. As well as the trailer-kitchen, we have another trailer-kitchen and a back-up van."

She finds hiring chefs "almost pointless" because they resist doing things "the way TV people want". She says: "You have to be ready to serve 100 people over 24 hours, taking orders as they come in. They want it ready as soon as they order it, tasting and looking fresh even if it has been held two hours."

□ Jane Dean is on 0161-928 7055

# How to survive the season of ill-will towards retailers

By Rodney Hobson

CHRISTMAS? Retailers who think it is all hump and the season of violent customers can seek solace in two free survival guides.

Most independent retailers feel unsafe at work, according to Whitehall Laboratories, the maker of Anadin Extra painkillers. Two out of three have been subjected to verbal or physical attacks at work.

Most attacks result from a confrontation with someone under the influence of drink or drugs or with a shoplifter. Weapons that have been used include knives, guns, machetes, CS gas, milk bottles, wine bottles and hypodermic needles.

Many retailers now maintain some form of self-protection, including personal alarms, pepper sprays, baseball bats, knives and scissors. One retailer said that he used a tape of his mother-in-law shouting to ward off potential attackers.

Whitehall has published the *Living Safely* guide written by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust. It says: "Aggressive behaviour towards those who work in retail is unfortunately becoming an increasingly common feature of life. The problem appears to be at its worst in inner cities but suburban and rural practices are not immune."

"Late opening and constant cash sales can mark out the retail outlet as a desirable target, not only for the opportunist thief but also for the person who is seeking drugs or medication. They can be distressed and unstable, sometimes quite out of their own control."

The leaflet explains how the shop can be laid out to prevent incidents, with suggestions on good lighting, where to place high-value goods and siting the till away from customers.

It encourages retailers to keep in touch with each other, and with crime prevention officers, to learn how to recognise early signs of aggression and how to defuse potential violence.

Barclays Merchant Services, which handles plastic card purchases in more than 125,000 shops and businesses in the UK, has called its booklet *How to Survive Christmas*. It includes comments from a psychologist on coping with stress, a checklist on preparing for the Christmas rush and an explanation of the rights of retailers and their customers.

Tony Slater, sales and marketing director at Barclays Merchant Services, says: "Christmas may be the season of good cheer but retailers should take care that this is not at the cost of staff morale. Long working hours, lack of breaks and understaffing can greatly affect the mood of staff and lead to mistakes being made. Lack of planning by not having enough stock or staff on the tills can aggravate customers, which can spell disaster for retailers."

□ The Barclays leaflet is available by ringing the customer call centre on 0345 212515.

□ For a copy of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust advice write to the Anadin Safety Campaign, 227 Chiswick High Road, London W4 2DW.

# Export drive to lift county knocked by the last recession

By Brian Collett

AN INTENSIVE export campaign has been launched in Dorset, where the last recession took a heavy toll and where 90 per cent of businesses now employ ten people or fewer.

The county's training and enterprise council funded research by Business Link Dorset earlier this year to discover which businesses

were exporting and which were not, and to devise policies to help exporters and would-be exporters.

The survey found considerable potential in Dorset, which includes the busy town of Bournemouth and a port at Poole, as well as rural industries, but decided a plan was needed. The range of Dorset goods includes farm produce, furniture and even power boats and racing car bodies.

Kelvin Derrick, chairman of the international committee of Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with which the Business Link has merged, said: "The business community appreciates that the county must pull together the Tec, the Institute of Directors, Business Link, local authorities and other bodies."

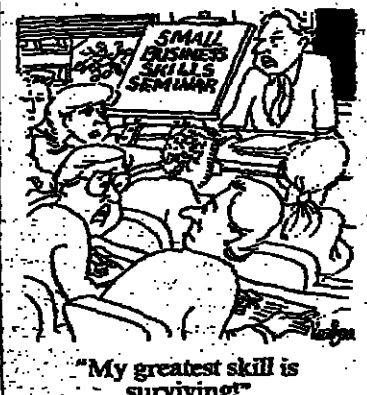
The campaign is already putting together a comprehensive data-

base of available services to go into a handbook for exporting businesses.

The export strategy will be publicised with awareness events throughout Dorset and the organisers will lobby visiting business groups to come to the county. Direct financial support will be sought to fund modern apprenticeships in international trade and to help Dorset businesses to

exhibit at overseas trade fairs. The search is also on for a European "champion", a high-powered representative to lobby in Brussels for businesses in Dorset, or possibly an even wider area of western England.

□ Links of Scotland, formed by a 20-company consortium, is to use a Web site for a video of golf courses to sell Scottish holidays to the Americans.



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# Mortgagee is bound by statutory tenancy

**Pourdanay v Bardsley Bank plc**

Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor

[Judgment November 6]

If a protected contractual tenancy was, when granted, binding on a mortgagee, a statutory tenancy came into existence on the termination of the contractual tenancy was also binding on that lender.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so held in a reserved judgment given in open court after a hearing in chambers in the Chancery Division, allowing the appeal of David Zarcovabli, Sabina Zarcovabli and Mrs Anoush Pourdanay from the order of Deputy Master Price of April 18, 1996 whereby he ordered possession of a registered property known as 13 Kings Drive, Edgware, Middlesex to be delivered up to the bank.

Mr Martin Westgate for Mrs Pourdanay; Mr David Wolfson for the bank.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that on April 29, 1988 Mr and Mrs Zarcovabli were registered as proprietors of the property. On May 25, 1988 they charged the property by way of legal mortgage known as 13 Kings Drive, Edgware, Middlesex to be delivered up to the bank.

By clause 4 of the charge "no statutory or other power of granting... tenancies of the mortgaged property... shall be capable of being exercised by the mortgagor without the previous consent in writing of the bank".

On July 28, 1988 the Zarcovablis in writing granted Mrs Pourdanay a statutory tenancy for a six-month term from August 1, 1988 to February 1, 1989 at a rent of £585

with an option to renew. The consent in writing of the bank to the grant of the statutory tenancy was not obtained and there was no evidence that the bank knew of the grant.

Mrs Pourdanay was not aware of the bank's security over the property. She went into occupation of the property on August 1 and had been there ever since. On August 23, 1994 the bank finally registered the charge that had been executed on May 25, 1988. On October 23, 1995 the bank issued a summons claiming possession of the property.

Under section 1 of the Rent Act 1977, Mrs Pourdanay's contractual tenancy granted by the written agreement of May 25, 1988 was a protected tenancy. When it terminated, section 2(1)(a) of the Act provided that a statutory tenancy would be created.

Mr Wolfson, appearing given Woolwich Building Society v Woodhead (1993) 3 All ER 204, 211, said that the bank's charge was a legal mortgage. It was not a charge by way of legal mortgage known as 13 Kings Drive, Edgware, Middlesex to be delivered up to the bank.

He also accepted that her contractual tenancy and its statutory tenancy successor remained binding on the bank up to August 23, 1994 when the bank's legal charge was registered. He contended, however, that the effect of registration was to overrule the statutory tenancy, and would have been to overrule the contractual tenancy if it had still been in existence.

That contention required a careful look to be taken at Lord Oliver of Aylmerton's speech in *Abbey National Building Society v Cann* (1991) AC 58. The case raised the question whether equitable rights which had been acquired after the date of execution of a charge but before its registration were binding on the registered charge.

The claimant was in actual occupation of the property at the time of registration of the charge and claimed priority over the charge by virtue of section 70(1)(g) of the 1925 Act. Lord Oliver said (at p 67) that "the relevant date for determining the existence of overriding interests which will affect the estate transferred or created is the date of registration".

He went on, however, to hold that the bank's charge was not a legal mortgage. It was a charge by way of legal mortgage known as 13 Kings Drive, Edgware, Middlesex to be delivered up to the bank.

Under section 70(1)(g), the overriding interests which registered land was deemed to be subject included "leases granted for a term not exceeding 21 years". It followed, in his Lordship's opinion, from *Abbey National Building Society v Cann* that if Mrs Pourdanay's contractual tenancy had been subsisting when the bank's charge was registered, the registered charge would have been subject to that tenancy by virtue of section 70(1)(g).

But at some point in the period between grant of the contractual tenancy and registration of the bank's charge the contractual tenancy had terminated and her occupation had continued by virtue of a statutory tenancy. A statutory tenancy could not be an overriding interest under section

70(1)(g). It was not a lease "granted for a term not exceeding 21 years". It was possible that the rights of a statutory tenancy should be regarded as capable of being protected under section 70(1)(g).

In view of the decision in *Abbey National Building Society v Cann*, it seemed to his Lordship, however, that Mrs Pourdanay could not claim priority over the bank's registered charge by the section 70(1)(g) route. She was not in occupation on May 25, 1988 when the transaction between Mr and Mrs Zarcovabli and the bank was completed by execution of the legal charge.

But her inability to obtain protection for her statutory tenancy rights via section 70(1)(g) was not, in his Lordship's opinion, the end of the matter. Whether or not Lord Denning was right in holding that the rights of a tenant under a statutory tenancy were rights which could fall within section 70(1)(g), the rights were of an anomalous character if measured against the general quality of rights to which registered land might, under section 70(1) be subject.

In *Jessamine Investment Co v Schwartz* (1978) 133 QB 264 Sir John Peel said (at p 270) that "the statutory tenancy has no estate as tenant but a personal right to remain in the property" and (at p 272) that a statutory tenancy carried with it a "status of irremovability, that status being enjoyed upon terms analogous to those of a

tenant". The statutory status of irremovability that adhered to a tenant under a statutory tenancy could not bind someone who claimed through title paramount: see *Dudley v Emerson*.

But whether a claimant did or did not have a title paramount had to be judged by comparing the title in question with the contractual tenancy from which sprang the statutory tenancy.

There were obvious reasons why neither a protected contractual tenancy nor a statutory tenancy could be a title paramount: the former because it was a lease, the latter because it was a personal right.

The bank was therefore not entitled to an order for possession against Mrs Pourdanay. The appeal would be allowed and the order for possession discharged.

Solicitors: Mr R. C. Campbell; Nicholson Graham & Jones.

## Sentence for conspiracy longer than for offence

**Regina v Ward**

**Regina v Hewitt**

**Regina v Dowling**

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice McInerney and Mr Justice Johnson

[Judgment October 31]

Where an offender was convicted of conspiring to commit criminal damage and the damage, if it had been committed, would not have exceeded £5,000, so that a trial on the substantive count would have been summary, the crown court was not restricted to imposing the maximum prison sentence of three months available for the substantive offence but could take into account the degree of criminality involved and sentence accordingly to the maximum allowed on trial on indictment.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing the appeals of Daniel Matthew Ward, Adrian Francis Hewitt, Jason Mark Downing and David Alan Clarke against sentences imposed on August 30, 1996, at Norwich Crown Court (Judge Langan, QC) for conspiracy to commit criminal damage to which Hewitt, Downing and Clarke pleaded guilty and Ward was convicted.

Mr Guy Ayers, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellants; Mr Stephen Ridley for the crown.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY, giving the judgment of the court, said that in the early hours of April 8, 1996, the appellants donned dark clothing and equipped themselves with blacked-out balaclavas, balaclavas and SS emblems, and with a tube of silicone sealant. Hewitt and Downing were stopped by police officers as they neared the Jewish cemetery in Norwich. Clarke and Ward were some way behind any seeing what had happened to their friends, evaded attention at that time and went home. They were arrested the following day.

In interview, Hewitt, Downing and Clarke admitted that they had planned to damage the gravestones in the cemetery. Ward said that he had been present during such discussions but alleged that he had not intended to do any damage.

Ward was convicted and Hewitt, Downing and Clarke pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit criminal damage. Hewitt and Downing were sentenced to 12 months. Clarke to 15 months and Ward to 18 months imprisonment. They all appealed against sentence. The trial judge having certified the cases as fit for appeal under section 11(A) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968.

Mr Ayers argued that if the four young men had done the damage

they meant to do, which it was accepted would not have amounted to more than £5,000, they could then have been charged with the substantive offence and would have been tried summarily.

On conviction they would then have been subject to a maximum sentence of three months and in those circumstances they should not have been punished more severely.

However, it seemed to their Lordships that the provisions of section 22 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, which applied to certain offences to be tried summarily if the value involved was small, including causing criminal damage contrary to section 1 of the Criminal Damage Act 1971, did not apply to the present case because the offence charged was not an offence under section 1 of the 1971 Act but an offence of conspiracy to commit such an offence.

Mr Ridley argued that there might be circumstances, and this

was one, where the mischief lay more in the agreement than in the doing. The agreement to deface was an act more wicked than the actual application of paint. Even if the deed had been done, in circumstances such as these it would have been open to the prosecution to charge the more serious offence of conspiracy.

It seemed to their Lordships that that submission was well founded. Accordingly it was open to the judge to deal with the offenders as he did. He was right to have regard to the provisions to which reference had been made but he was in no way fettered by the three-month imprisonment limit simply because a trial of the substantive offence would have been dealt with summarily. There was nothing inappropriate in the sentences of any of the appellants and accordingly the appeals would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Norfolk.

## Well founded fear of persecution

**Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal and Another, Ex parte Shah**

Before Mr Justice Sedley

[Reasons October 25]

A woman who had a credible concern that she would be punished by stoning to death for adultery under an interpretation of Islamic law if returned to her home country, having nowhere else to go but the home of her husband, was capable of being a member of a social group where there was a well founded fear of persecution as that she was potentially a refugee who should be offered asylum.

Mr Justice Sedley so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting the application of Syeda Khatoon Shah for judicial review of the decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal to refuse her leave to appeal from a special adjudicator's dismissal of her appeal against the refusal of the Home Secretary to grant her asylum.

Article 1(A) of the Convention and Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) (Cmd 917) and (1967) (Cmd 596) provides: "For the purposes of the present convention, the term 'refugee' shall apply to any person who... owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling

to avail himself of the protection of that country."

Miss Frances Webber for the applicant; Mr Mark Shaw for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that the material findings of the special adjudicator were that the applicant, a citizen of Pakistan, was a battered wife. She had been brought up partly in the United Kingdom but had returned to Pakistan at 17 in order to marry. Her husband, after years of violence had finally driven her out of her home. On arrival in the United Kingdom she found that she was pregnant. If she returned to Pakistan she would have nowhere but her husband's home to go to.

She had given birth and now credibly feared that if she had to return, she would be accused by him of conceiving the child adulterously, exposing her to the operation of the Sharia law which prescribed stoning to death as the punishment for adultery.

Although Miss Webber had not had any task in the light of current jurisprudence on the Convention, the facts found in her client's favour by the special adjudicator were capable in law of bringing her within 1(A)(2) of the Convention.

It did not mean that on the factual findings she was bound to succeed. A great deal depended on the tribunal itself.

Solicitors: Malik Gould Associates, Aldgate; Treasury Solicitor.

## Unpaid commissions constitute wages under Act

**Blackstone Franks Investment Management Ltd v Robertson**

Before Mr Justice Holland, Mrs E. E. Sunderland and Ms B. Weller

[Judgment October 10]

Commissions which an employee was contractually entitled to receive following termination of his contract, and which were readily identifiable as and when due, were wages within section 7(1) of the Wages Act 1986 which, if not paid, could form the basis of a claim for wrongful deduction of wages.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held in a reserved judgment allowing in part an appeal by Blackstone Franks Investment Management Ltd against the decision of a Liverpool industrial tribunal on March 14, 1996 that it should pay Mr James Ritchie Robertson £14,126.50,

being unauthorised deductions of wages contrary to the 1986 Act.

Section 3 of the 1986 Act provides: "Where the total amount of any wages that are paid on any occasion by an employer to any worker employed by him is less than the total amount of the wages that are properly payable by him to that worker on that occasion... the amount of the deficiency shall be treated... as a deduction made by the employer from the worker's wages on that occasion."

Mr Robin Howard for the company; Mr Robertson in person.

MR JUSTICE HOLLAND said that Mr Robertson was a financial consultant who entered into a contract to provide the company with services, essentially obtaining clients who would invest money through the company in appropriate financial products.

The contract provided that Mr Robertson would be entitled to commission on business completed by him, at rates as set out from time to time in the company's procedures manual. Any business introduced but not completed at the date of termination would be completed on his behalf with due diligence.

Following termination of his contract in October 1994, Mr Robertson contended that a substantial amount of business had been introduced before termination and that he was entitled to completion thereof on his behalf leading to commissions. He made his claim to the commissions by way of a complaint based upon the provisions of the 1986 Act.

The company submitted that commission payable after termination could not be categorised as "wages" as defined by section 7(1)

of the 1986 Act. That submission was advanced by reference to *Delany v Staples* (1992) 1 AC 687 where the House of Lords had held that "a payment in lieu" in the context of a dismissal could not be categorised as "wages".

The point raised upon by the company was that which emerged in the speech of Lord Browne-Wilkinson, namely that as at the date of dismissal that which was properly due by way of "payment in lieu", that was a way of having categorised the sums claimed as being outside the Act.

The company said that the quantum of any commissions claimed was similarly speculative at the date of termination of the contract and the tribunal should have categorised the sums claimed as being outside the Act. The company developed that

point by reference to the 1986 Act: section 7(1) (2)(b) required it to exclude from its ambit "any payment to the worker otherwise than in his capacity as worker" and it submitted that the sums claimed by way of post-termination commission fell into that category.

The court had no hesitation in rejecting that argument. So far from being similar to "payment in lieu", that was to damages for wrongful dismissal, the commissions claimed were the subject of a contractual entitlement readily to be identified as and when due and plainly to be paid to Mr Robertson in his capacity as worker.

The point was finally resolved by section 8(3). The total amount of a payment in lieu that was properly payable could not be identified as commission payable after termination and when that was properly payable could be identified by reference to the contract.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co.

## BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

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## European Law Report

### VAT is payable on discount price

**Elida Gibbs Ltd v Commissioners of Customs and Excise**

Case C-317/94

Before G. F. Mancini, President of the Sixth Chamber and Judges C. N. Kourkouris and A. Herich. Advocate General N. Fennelly (Opinion June 27) [Judgment October 24]

Where consumers were enabled to purchase goods at less than their normal sale price by virtue of "money-off" and "cash-back" coupons issued by a manufacturer, the manufacturer's taxable amount for value-added tax purposes was the sale price less the amount stated on the coupon.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the VAT and Duties Tribunal, London, for a preliminary ruling on questions arising from the interpretation of article 11 of the Sixth Council Directive 77/388/EEC of May 17, 1977 on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes: common system of value added tax, uniform basis of assessment (OJ 1977 L145 p1).

To promote retail sales of its products, Elida Gibbs, a manufacturer of toiletries, operated two coupon schemes, "money-off", of which there were two categories, namely "basic" and "retailer-specific", and "cash-back".

Under the basic money-off scheme, Elida Gibbs promoted a particular product for a limited period. It arranged for money-off coupons to be distributed to the public, either directly or as cut-out coupons in magazines, newspapers, and similar publications. Each coupon had a face value and carried instructions to consumers indicating that it could be presented for partial payment for one or more specific Elida Gibbs products, and instructions to retailers as to how and within what period it should be returned to Elida Gibbs for redemption.

Under the retailer-specific money-off scheme, Elida Gibbs entered into an arrangement with a retailer to organise a promotion scheme for a particular product or line of products, lasting for a limited period.

The retailer printed the coupons under contract to Elida Gibbs and distributed them to the public. The coupons had a face value and mentioned the product or products for which it could be presented as part payment of the price.

Whether the buyer was a wholesaler or a retailer, Elida Gibbs charged the supply at a specific VAT inclusive price which it invoiced to the buyer under both variants of the money-off coupon schemes.

Under the cash-back coupon scheme, the coupon was printed on the packaging of an Elida Gibbs product, and carried Elida Gibbs's offer, subject to certain conditions, to refund the consumer part of the

purchase price paid by him to the retailer, corresponding to the face value of the voucher.

A consumer who purchased the product was entitled to send the voucher direct to Elida Gibbs or to its agents, who would then make the promised cash refund.

In the case in which Elida Gibbs sought the repayment of VAT already paid, was whether, in relation to each type of coupon, the manufacturer's taxable amount was the manufacturer's price or that price less the amount stated in the coupon.

Article 11(A)(a) of the Sixth Directive provides: "The taxable amount shall be: (a) in respect of supplies of goods and services... everything which constitutes the consideration which has been or is to be obtained by a supplier from the purchaser, the customer or a third party for such supplies including subsidies directly linked to the price of such supplies."

Article 11(C)(1) provides: "In the case of exemption, refund or total or partial non-payment, or where the price is reduced after the supply takes place, the taxable amount shall be reduced accordingly."

In its judgment the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: General considerations

Before replying to the preliminary questions, it was appropriate to describe briefly the basic principle of the VAT system and how it operated.

The basic principle was that the VAT system was intended to tax only the final consumer. Consequently the taxable amount for the purposes of the VAT to be collected by the tax authorities could not exceed the consideration actually paid by the final consumer which was the basis for calculating the VAT ultimately borne by him.

The court had held that one of the principles on which the VAT system was based was neutrality, in the sense that within each country similar goods should bear the same tax burden whatever the length of the production and distribution chain.

That basic principle clarified the role and obligations of taxable persons within the machinery established for the collection of VAT.

It was not, in fact, the taxable persons who themselves bore the burden of VAT. The sole requirement imposed on them, when they took part in the production and distribution process prior to the stage of final taxation, regardless of the number of transactions involved, was that at each stage of the process, they collected the tax on behalf of the tax authorities and accounted for it to them.

The court had held that a basic feature of the VAT system was that VAT was chargeable on each transaction only after deduction of the amount of VAT borne directly by the cost of the various price components of the goods and services.

The procedure for deduction was so arranged that only taxable persons were authorised to deduct from the VAT which the goods and services had already borne.

It followed that, having regard in each case to the machinery of the VAT system, its operation and the role of the intermediaries, the tax authorities could not in any circumstances charge an amount exceeding the tax paid by the final consumer.

Preliminary questions

By virtue of article 11(A)(a) of the Sixth Directive, the taxable amount for supplies of goods and services within the territory of a state comprised all sums which made up the consideration which had been or was to be obtained by the supplier from the purchaser.

According to the court's settled case law, that consideration was the "subjective" value, that is, the value actually received in each specific case, and not a value estimated according to objective criteria.

In circumstances such as those in the present case, the manufacturer, who had refunded the value of the money-off coupon to the retailer or the value of the cash-back coupon to the final consumer, received, on completion of the transaction, a sum corresponding to the sale price paid by the wholesaler or retailer for his goods, less the value of those coupons.

It would not, therefore, be in conformity with the directive for the taxable amount used to calculate the VAT chargeable to the manufacturer, as a taxable person, to exceed the sum finally received by him.

Were that the case, the principle of neutrality of VAT vis-à-vis taxable persons, of whom the manufacturer was one, would not be complied with.

Consequently, the taxable amount attributable to the manufacturer as a taxable person must be the amount corresponding to the price at which he sold the goods to the wholesalers or retailers, less the value of those coupons.

That interpretation was borne out by article 11(C)(1) of the Sixth Directive, which was designed to ensure the neutrality of the taxable person's position.

## Luxembourg

### VAT is payable on discount price

It followed, therefore, from that provision that, in order to ensure observance of the principle of neutrality, account should be taken, when calculating the taxable amount for VAT, of situations where a taxable person who, having no contractual relationship with the final consumer, but being the first link in a chain of transactions which ended with the final consumer, granted the consumer a reduction through retailers or by direct repayment of the value of the coupon.

Otherwise, the tax authorities would receive by way of VAT a sum greater than that actually paid by the final consumer, at the expense of the taxable person.

On those and further grounds the Court ruled:

1 Article 11(A)(a) and 11(C)(1) of the Sixth Directive were to be interpreted as meaning that where:

(a) a manufacturer issued a money-off coupon which was redeemable at the amount stated on the coupon by or at the expense of the manufacturer in favour of the retailer,

(b) the coupon, which was distributed to a potential customer in the course of a sales promotion campaign, could be accepted by the retailer in payment for a specified item of goods,

(c) the manufacturer had sold the specified item at the "original supplier's price" direct to the retailer, and

(d) the retailer took the coupon from the customer on sale of the item, presented it to the manufacturer, and was paid the stated amount, the taxable amount was equal to the selling price charged by the manufacturer, less the amount indicated on the voucher and refunded.

The same applied if the original supply was made by the manufacturer to a wholesaler rather than directly to a retailer.

2 Article 11(A)(a) and 11(C)(1) of the Sixth Directive were to be interpreted as meaning that where:

(a) in the course of a promotion scheme a manufacturer sold items of goods at the "manufacturer's price" direct to a retailer,

(b) a cash-back coupon for an amount stated on the packaging of those items entitled the customer, if he proved purchase of one of those items and satisfied other conditions printed on the coupon, to present the coupon to the manufacturer in return for payment of the stated amount, and

(c) a customer purchased such an item from a retailer, presented the coupon to the manufacturer and was paid the stated amount, the taxable amount was equal to the selling price charged by the manufacturer, less the amount indicated on the coupon and refunded.

The same applied if the original supply was made by the manufacturer to a wholesaler rather than directly to a retailer.



# Taunton residents stay ahead of the game



INTERNATIONAL week once again, and so a quiet week on the Interactive Team Football front. This means that the weekly winner's score was a paltry eight points, not that that will matter to Mr N. Hinch, of Taunton, whose Hinch Mount C Team had the two critical selections of Gary McAllister, of Coventry City, and Graham Stuart, of Everton, the goalscorers in the FA Carling Premiership match between the two teams. In the overall race for £50,000, Mr John Hunt, also of Taunton, remains in front. Mr Hunt has a nine-point lead over his nearest rivals, and three of his own teams are still chasing hard as well in second equal, sixth and eighth equal positions.

Mr Hinch's team is:

Goalkeeper  
N Walker (Aberdeen)

Full backs  
S I Bjornetve (Liverpool)  
K Rowland (West Ham)

Central defenders  
A Linighan (Arsenal)  
D Matteo (Liverpool)

Midfield players  
A Kanchelskis (Everton)  
G McAllister (Coventry)  
J Moncur (West Ham)  
A Townsend (Aston Villa)

Strikers  
D Dublin (Coventry)  
G Stuart (Everton)

Manager  
W Smith (Rangers)



Les Ferdinand scores England's second goal in Tbilisi, showing why he is among the leading ITF strikers



You can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. You can use the ITF transfer system which

allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 884 966 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01552 488 122.

## THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

IN	OUT	LOANED PLAYERS
35504 50624 52404	David Buzs Coventry City £1 00m	D Wessell (Derby to Manchester City, one week); B Angell (Sunderland to Stockport, one week); T Wright (Nottingham Forest to Reading, three weeks); R van der Laan (Derby to Wolverhampton, one week); S Fitzgibbon (Wolverhampton to Bristol City, one week); M Williams (Sheff Wednesd to Huddersfield, one week); F Bennett (Southampton to Shrewsbury, two weeks); C Smith (Middlesbrough to Bristol City, three weeks); S Davies (Middlesbrough to Huddersfield, three weeks); M Jackson (Everton to Birmingham, three weeks); J Kanevich (Derby to Wycombe, three weeks); J Condy (Tottenham to Ipswich, one month); R Ferdinand (West Ham to Bournemouth, one month); Loan periods subject to auction month

## THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	246
2	Gangsters	(A Lane)	237
2	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	237
4	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	236
4	Skyforest	(A Burton)	236
6	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	232
7	Schools For Goals	(K Booth)	230
8	Orvieto Classico	(J Bradshaw)	227
8	NSY Monksstone	(J Staszewicz)	227
10	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	227
11	Purple Rain	(G Gohli)	225
12	Raggy's Rangers	(M Jones)	222
13	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	215
13	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	218
13	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	218
16	James Boys Three	(M Jones)	217
16	I	(M Cortless)	217
18	James Boys 8	(R Newbould)	214
18	PJ Thistle	(V Cox)	214
18	Daggers	(J Brown)	214
18	Nobby 33	(B Howes)	214
22	Brain's Team	(K Fairhall)	213
22	A2	(L Michaels)	212
24	Lesley's Legmen	(G Foster)	212
24	Hull Red Devils	(P Foster)	212
24	Beyond Fault	(D Tulip)	211
26	Tulip's Tops	(D Tulip)	211
26	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohli)	211
26	Flying Foreigners	(D Thomas)	210
28	The Dansters	(C C Vewers)	209
28	Clower Vale	(N Enslight)	209
31	Rod's Rovers	(S Roddam)	209
31	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	209
31	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	209
35	Aldeacuric Villa	(M Jukes)	208
35	Plastic Pipers 10	(T Festaly)	208
35	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohli)	208
35	Beecham Celtic	(B McGivern)	208
35	AB 4	(A Boyland)	208
40	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirls)	207
40	The Red Devils	(K Booth)	207
40	Sky Times III	(M McCullough)	207
40	A	(M Cortless)	207
40	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	207
45	Nomads	(N Broom)	206
45	Toto Calcio	(A Daye)	206
45	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	206
48	ST Utd	(M O'Brien)	205
48	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	205
48	Pamela Anderson	(P Hands)	205
48	James's Giants	(J Longton)	205
48	Redknapp's Rovers	(B Emson)	205
48	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	205
54	Alice	(I Pigeon)	204
54	Insomniacs	(M Tomlinson)	204
54	Mark's Magicians II	(M Kingsley)	204
54	Subwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	204
54	Bab's Boys 2	(R Calder)	204
54	Turner's Earners 3	(P Turner)	204
54	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	204
61	Inter The Stand	(N Ward)	203
61	Hove Rovers 3	(M Goddard)	203
61	Fortuna Sandwich	(A J Finkel)	203
61	Jan 2	(J Clayton)	203
61	PT's Top Team	(I Tomlinson)	203
61	JS August Monthly 2	(I Swirls)	203
61	Expensive Failures	(S Harper)	203
68	D & A Warriors	(A Summers)	202
68	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohli)	202
70	Storm	(P Mills)	201

## FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
70	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	201
70	Team C	(A Lane)	201
70	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohli)	201
70	1st Elton	(R Burns)	201
75	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohli)	200
75	Glen Duffers	(S Wilson)	200
75	Former Champions	(M Murrain)	200
75	West Brom The Best	(C Jones)	200
75	Rolsin's Raiders	(P M Handley)	200
75	Zig Zag Zik 25	(J Zak)	200
75	Bumbles XI	(S Jones)	200
75	Le Boeufesters	(J Roebuck)	200
75	Abdul's Revenge	(D Ritchie)	200
75	Oliver FC	(C Armstrong)	200
85	Atletico Storm	(P Mills)	199
85	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	199
85	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	199
85	Harry May	(N Pearson)	199
85	Hari Kart XI	(H Kerr)	199
85	Obby 22	(D Newton)	199
91	Polly's Pride	(P Smiley)	198
91	Nonchalant AFC 3	(R J Ward)	198
91	Where's Ray Gone?	(P Fromm)	198
91	Kinky Imports	(S Fraser)	198
91	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	198
91	Obby 22	(J Brown)	198
91	Bothered FC	(D Lee)	198
98	Ravioit On Toast	(N Bowles)	197
98	Bad Time Boys	(R Crook)	197
98	Murray's Magicians	(M MacMillan)	197
98	Jack's Nightmarer	(N J Lane)	197
98	Glen's Win World Cup	(P Geary)	197
98	Aldo la Great	(J Holliday)	197
98	France FC	(N Foon)	197
98	Barry's Team	(S Matthews)	197
98	United In Footy	(O Altan)	197
98	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	197
98	Nobby	(J Brown)	197
100	Peer-Shaped FC	(R M Sands)	196
100	Saltos Super Stars	(J Seaman)	196
100	Choirn Chir 69	(C Scarier)	196

## HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Scottish League premier division and Tannet's Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED	
Goalkeeper	4pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts
Saves goal	1pt
Saves penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender	3pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts
Saves goal	1pt
Midfield player	3pts
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt
Saves goal	2pts
Striker	4pts
Saves goal	2pts
Appearance	1pt
Saves hat-trick	6pts
Manager	3pts
Team wins	3pts
Team draws	1pt

POINTS DEDUCTED	
Goalkeeper	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts
Concedes penalty	1pt
Misses penalty	1pt
Saves own goal	1pt
All players	1pt
Sent off	3pts
Team loses	1pt



## EXCLUSIVE ITF COMPETITION THE TIMES

# TWO FOOTBALL TABLES EACH WORTH £800 TO BE WON



The Times Interactive Team Football and René Pierre are giving ITF players the chance to win one of two superb football tables. You can live out your football fantasies by playing with your friends on children in the comfort of your own home.

The high-quality table, finished in beechwood with metal figures, is worth £800. It is 36-inches high, 31-inches wide by 60 inches long.

If you are not already a player, it is still not too late to compete for big monthly and weekly prizes for the rest of the season.

For information about René Pierre tables call 0171-403 2960.

## HOW TO ENTER

To enter (only players of The Times ITF game) send your name, your ITF team name, ITF pin number and the answer to the question below, on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to: The Times ITF Comp, 30 Bouverie St, London EC88 4NG. Closing date: Friday, November 24, 1996. Winners will be drawn at random. Who scored the first goal for England in their World Cup qualifying match against Georgia?

For information about René Pierre tables call 0171-403 2960.

## HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 884 966. If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 0044 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN, which you will have to keep in a safe place. Follow the simple transfer system and you will be able to transfer players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

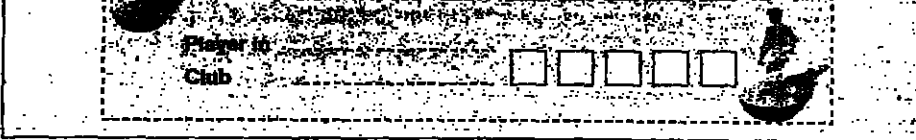
You may transfer two (but not more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, two midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £25 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 45p per minute cheap rate, 50p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.





## The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0 +3	
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0 +6	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0 +28	
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0 +0	
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0 +8	
10301	M Boenich	Aston Villa	3.50	0 +1	
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +13	
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0 +0	
10402	G Marshall	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0 +0	
10501	D Marshall	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0 +1	
10601	K Hitchcock	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +10	
10602	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0 +7	
10701	J Fylan	Coventry City	0.50	0 +0	
10702	M Taylor	Derby County	2.00	0 +0	
10801	R Hought	Derby County	1.00	0 +0	
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0 +4	
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0 +5	
11001	N Southall	Everton	2.50	0 +12	
11002	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0 +12	
11101	G Rouse	Everton	2.00	0 +18	
11102	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	0 +4	
11201	D Lakovic	Hibernian	1.00	0 +25	
11202	M Beesley	Leeds United	1.50	0 +0	
11301	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0 +0	
11302	N Marryn	Leeds United	2.50	0 +8	
11401	K Poole	Leeds United	1.00	0 +3	
11402	K Kellar	Leeds United	1.00	0 +4	
11501	D James	Liverpool	5.00	0 +5	
11502	A Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0 +0	
11601	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	0 +13	
11602	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0 +5	
11701	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +0	
11702	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +23	
11801	S Clarke	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +11	
11802	S Hlop	Newcastle United	4.00	0 +3	
11901	P Smith	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +5	
11902	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0 +21	
12001	A Fells	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0 +0	
12002	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0 +0	
12101	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0 +20	
12102	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0 +13	
12201	K Pressman	Sheff Wednes	2.00	0 +9	
12202	D Bessant	Southampton	1.00	0 +10	
12301	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0 +2	
12302	C Woods	Southampton	1.50	0 +0	
12401	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	0 +5	
12402	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0 +9	
12501	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0 +15	
12502	L Mido	West Ham United	2.00	0 +13	
12601	S Mouton	West Ham United	0.50	0 +5	
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0 +7	
13002	P Haid	Wimbledon	1.00	0 +0	



Nick Barmby moved to Everton to play regular first-team football. Will his move be worth an ITF gamble?

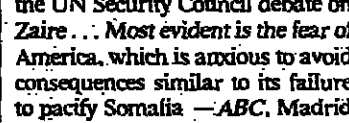
Code	Name			
20101	S McKinnle	Aberdeen	2.00	0 +9
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0 +21
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0 +19
20301	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	0 +4
20302	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +10
20303	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +19
20304	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0 +0
20305	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	0 +0
20401	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +13
20402	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 +2
20403	G Leaux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 +3
20404	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 +2
20501	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0 +2
20502	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	0 +9
20601	T McInnes	Celtic	3.00	0 +11
20602	D Patterson	Chelsea	3.00	0 +5
20603	T Pihlak	Chelsea	2.00	0 +0
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	2.00	0 +0
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0 +6
20702	B Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	0 +2
20703	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0 +4
20704	R Gensaux	Coventry City	1.50	0 +2
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0 +0
20802	C Powell	Derby County	1.00	0 +5
20803	J Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25	0 +0
20804	P Kavanagh	Derby County	1.00	0 +4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	0 +12
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	0 +6
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0 +0
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0 +6
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	0 +0
21101	M Holtger	Everton	2.50	0 +0
21102	E Barrett	Everton	2.00	0 +8
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0 +11
21104	M Jackson	Everton	1.00	0 +0
21105	G Locke	Everton	2.00	0 +0
21201	N Poulton	Hibernian	1.00	0 +5
21202	M Miller	Hibernian	1.00	0 +3
21203	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0 +8
21204	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	0 +10
21301	E Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0 +1
21302	A Dorio	Leeds United	2.50	0 +1
21303	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	0 +1
21304	M Whitlow	Leeds United	0.50	0 +7
21401	S Grayson	Leeds United	0.50	0 +7
21402	N Lewis	Leeds United	0.50	0 +0
21403	F Roling	Leeds United	0.25	0 +0
21404	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0 +0
21405	S I Bjornby	Liverpool	1.50	0 +0
21406	P Charnock	Liverpool	0.50	0 +14
21501	D Jarvis	Manchester United	4.00	0 +13
21502	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0 +5
21503	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0 +4
21601	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	0 +0
21602	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +0
21603	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +5
21604	W Barton	Newcastle United	0.50	0 +2
21605	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +10
21606	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0 +0
21607	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0 +0
21608	D Little	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0 +1
21609	A Haisland	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0 +0
21610	N Jordan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0 +2
21611	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0 +7
21612	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0 +5
21613	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	0 +1
21614	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0 +0
21615	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +4
21616	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +8
21617	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +5
21618	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +2
21619	F Dodd	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0 +0
21620	S Charlton	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0 +6
21621	C Kubicki	Sunderland	0.75	0 +0
21622	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	0 +12
21623	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	0 +0
21624	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 +0
21625	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 +13
21626	J Edinburg	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0 +0
21627	D Kerstake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 +0
21628	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 +0
21629	J Dickie	West Ham United	4.00	0 +8
21630	T Breckler	West Ham United	1.00	0 +0
21631	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0 +3
21632	M Brown	West Ham United	1.00	0 +5
21633	M Bowen	West Ham United	0.50	0 +0
21634	K Brown	West Ham United	1.50	0 +9
21635	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0 +9
21636	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +1
21637	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +10
21638	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +0
21639	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	0 +14

30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +1
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0 +3
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +3
30404	N Walker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0 +2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	0 +13
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0 +3
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	0 +11
30601	M Daberry	Chelsea	2.50	0 +3
30602	F Labouret	Chelsea	2.50	0 +16
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0 +0
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0 +3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0 +6
30606	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	0 +10
30607	J Kjeldberg	Chelsea	0.50	0 +0
30701	L Daley	Coventry City	2.00	0 +5
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0 +3
30703	D Busst	Coventry City	1.00	0 +0
30704	I Stiles	Derby County	2.50	0 +1
30705	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0 +0
30706	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0 +2
30707	J Laurson	Derby County	1.00	0 +7
30708	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0 +0
30801	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	0 +9
30802	M Miller	Dundee United	0.75	0 +3
30803	I Don Blam	Dunfermline	0.75	0 +7
30804	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0 +11
30805	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0 +5
30806	S Short	Everton	2.00	0 +11
30807	D McPherson	Everton	1.00	0 +4
30808	P Ritchie	Everton	1.00	0 +5
30809	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0 +4
30810	G Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0 +9
30811	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0 +3
30812	M Kelly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0 +3
30813	R McGovern	Kilmarnock	0.75	0 +1
30814	D McNeill	Leeds United	2.50	0 +7
30815	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0 +2
30816	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	0 +2
30817	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0 +0
30818	S Walsh	Leeds United	1.00	0 +4
30819	J Watts	Leeds United	1.00	0 +12
30820	P Marks	Leeds United	0.50	0 +0
30821	C Young	Leeds United	1.00	0 +2
30822	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0 +10
30823	J Scalls	Liverpool	3.50	0 +0
30824	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0 +9
30825	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0 +0
30826	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0 +10
30827	G Pellister	Manchester United	3.50	0 +3
30828	D May	Manchester United	3.00	0 +5
30829	R Johnson	Manchester United	2.50	0 +9
30830	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +9
30831	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +4
30832	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +9
30833	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +4
30834	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	0 +1
30835	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	0 +11
30836	P Albart	Newcastle United	4.50	0 +4
30837	S Hovey	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +7
30838	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +12
30839	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0 +5
30840	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0 +1
30841	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 +0
30842	S Dennis	Raith Rovers	1.00	0 +15
30843	R Gough	Rangers	3.00	0 +2
30844	A MacLennan	Rangers	3.00	0 +0
30845	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	0 +12
30846	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	0 +6
30847	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0 +2
30848	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +5
30849	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0 +0
30850	K Morrison	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0 +0
30851	S Nelson	Southampton	1.00	0 +1
30852	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0 +1
30853	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0 +1
30854	U van Gobel	Southampton	1.50	0 +3
30855	A McVie	Sunderland	1.00	0 +12
30856	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0 +11
30857	R Orr	Sunderland	0.50	0 +12
30858	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0 +18
30859	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0 +16
30860	G Mabbitt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 +0
30861	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 +0
30862	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 +0
30863	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 +3
30864	R Miller	West Ham United	2.50	0 +3
30865	M Ripper	West Ham United	2.50	0 +3
30866	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	0 +2
30867	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0 +0
30868	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0 +0
30869	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0 +0
30870	C Phillips	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +0
30871	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0 +2
30872	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0 +12

			Pos	Wt On
		Team	250	
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	0+11
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	0 +7
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	0 +1
40104	I Kirakov	Aberdeen	2.50	0 +10
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	0 +12
40201	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	0 +15
40202	P Pearson	Arsenal	4.00	0 +25
40203	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0 +9
40204	G Holder	Arsenal	1.50	0 +0
40205	I Selley	Arsenal	0.50	0 +0
40208	P Velez	Arsenal	3.00	0 +10
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0 +0
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	0 +10
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	0 +17
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	0 +0
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +0
40306	S Currie	Aston Villa	3.50	0 +12
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0 +10
40402	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0 +11
40403	G Fittercroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +7
40404	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +1
40405	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +1
40406	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0 +3
40407	G Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0 +14
40408	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0 +5
40409	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0 +0
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	0 +0
40502	A Thorn	Celtic	2.50	0 +16
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	0 +12
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	0 +13
40505	P Di Canzio	Celtic	3.00	0 +18



■ The Japanese will soon be able to read an uncensored translation of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. In 1950, the Japanese Supreme Court ordered about 80 pages of a complete translation of D. H. Lawrence's book to be deleted. The Japanese publishing house Shinchosha said the unexpurgated edition would be available at the end of the month..... Page 13



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